

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. Model W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.,
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

The Bombay Chronicle

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. Model W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.,
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

FOUNDED BY SIR PHNODASHAH M. MEHTA IN 1912.

VOL XV NO 33-

BOMBAY TUESDAY FEBRUARY 8 1927

ONE ANNA

SHIPPING

P. & O. British India

(Incorporated in England)

MAIL & PASSENGERS SERVICE.

P. and O. SAILINGS TO PLYMOUTH AND LONDON CALLING AT MARSEILLES.

All passengers are required to be in Possession of passports.

Date.	Steamers.	Connecting at Aden via	Tons
1927			
12 Feb.	RAJPUTANA		16,568
19 "	RAZMAK	MOBEA *	10,918
26 "	RAJWALPINDI		16,619
5 Mar.	RAZMAK	NALDERA x	15,993
12 "	RAJPUTANA		15,993
19 "	RAZMAK		10,918
26 "	RAZMAK		10,918
2 "	CBINAI		7,932
9 "	KAISAR-I- HIND		11,430
16 "	NARKUNDA		16,227
23 "	RANCHI		16,650
30 "	RAZMAK		10,918
6 Apr.	RAJPUTANA		16,568
13 "	MOHTAN		20,847
20 "	RAJWALPINDI		16,619
27 "	RAZMAK	MALWA *	10,940
4 May	RANCHI		15,993
11 "	RAJPUTANA		16,568
18 "	DELTA	MALOJA *	20,657
25 "	KAISAR-I- HIND		11,430
1 Jun.	RAZMAK	MOBEA *	10,918
8 "	CHINA		7,932
15 "	RAZMAK	NALDERA x	15,993
22 "	RAJPUTANA		16,568
29 "	RAZMAK	MANTUA *	10,918

CLASSIFIED ADVT.

Readers, Private Short Advertisements are inserted in these columns at the following rates:—

HALF ANNA

PER, WORD

CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER.

The full name and address of the advertiser is required, not necessarily for publication.

Advertisers who do not wish their names and addresses published will be given a Box number. The words: Apply Box No.—Advertisement Department, 'Bombay Chronicle,' to be paid for.

Answers to advertisements should be addressed as follows:—Box Number—Advertisement Department, 'Bombay Chronicle' Office, Bombay.

Unclaimed replies to advertisements are destroyed after one month.

SITUATIONS VACANT

LEARN TOUCH TYPEWRITING FREE, STANDARD TYPEWRITER COMPANY, 321, Hornby Road, A R27

WANTED—A CHIEF AGENT for the Bombay Presidency on liberal terms of commission, Office allowance and bonus. Only really capable men need apply to Box 13, THE PEOPLE'S INSURANCE CO. LIMITED, 1, Chamberlain Road, Lahore. A 28007

WANTED—A LADY COMPANION and Tutor to an Indian Princess, Hindu preferred. Should be a graduate knowing Sanskrit and with teaching experience. Pay according to qualifications. Apply with copies of testimonials to Box No. 1908, Advt. Dept., 'Bombay Chronicle.' A 28111

SITUATIONS WANTED

CHENTHMAN (32) Capable and with initiative desires responsible position—Managerial and Sales experience (Automobiles) also Engineering Stores. All accounts and correspondence—Business and Bankers reference. P. Rolt, 32 Denis Park Crescent, West Wimbledon, London, S. W. England. B.

PROFESSION.

FREE TREATMENT FOR LEPROSY. (Under Special Diet).

FREE SAMPLE PACKETS of the infallible remedy for Leucoderma or White Leprosy to prove its efficacy and to show that the disease is not incurable as supposed. It never fails. The sample packet will be enough to produce wonders in only one inch spot. Write for it at once, per V. P. P. for a box 6 to meet the cost of its transmission. Details of infallible remedy for Constipation, Dyspepsia, etc., etc. PANDIT KRIPARAM (Specialist in Leprosy), 8, Nandibagan Lane, Sulkhia (Howrah).

N.B.—'Leprosy and its Treatment,' a guide to cure Leprosy. Price Rs. 2, postage As. 5 extra.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs of general interest are invited from readers from all parts of India for publication in 'The Chronicle.' Preference will be given to topical photographs on subjects of political, general, engineering, scientific or other interest. Accepted photographs will be paid for on publication, at usual rates.

The Editor undertakes no responsibility for the return of unaccepted photographs, but every endeavor will be made to return rejected photographs, accompanied by stamped addressed envelope. All photographs must be sent to the

EDITOR,

'The Bombay Chronicle,' Colaba Street, Fort, Bombay.

EDUCATIONAL.

ACCOUNTANCY DIPLOMA courses by post, Tuition free. Exam. in June. Apply prospectus, C. C. EDUCATION, P.O. Jannar, POONA. M R3672

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE—A BLACK-BIRD FOUNTAIN PEN: For particulars, Write to—BHA. RATIL HOUSE, Krishnaraj Mohalla, Mysore. 19

FOR SALE—AT REDUCED RATES.—Shares of an Insurance Concern of a long standing. For particulars please apply to, Box No. 1910 Advt. Dept. 'Bombay Chronicle.' 28129

OLD COTTON DRIVING ROPES.—We are buyers of all classes of Old Cotton Driving Ropes. Please communicate with the quantities available. WAZIRCHAND CHIMANLAL & CO., Factory owners, Khanawal, Punjab, India. N 28041

PUBLIC NOTICES.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS Legal and Public Notifications are published in these columns at the following rates:—

	Per Column
Inch per Insertion.	
1st Insertion ..	Rs. 7-8-0
2nd Insertion ..	Rs. 5-8-0
3rd Insertion ..	Rs. 4-8-0
4th & Subsequent Insertions ..	Rs. 3-8-0

Mofussil advertisers are requested to send remittance in advance and state clearly, whether they wish to insert their advertisements in these columns or in the classified short advertisement columns.

NOTICE.

IN THE MATTER OF THE INDIAN COMPANIES ACT VII OF 1913.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMBAJI TARANGA LIGHT RAILWAY CO. LTD. (IN VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION.)

An EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders of this Company will be held in the Registered office of the Company at No. 315, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay, on THURSDAY, the 17th of February, 1927, at 5 p.m. (S.T.) when the following resolution will be submitted as an EXTRA-ORDINARY RESOLUTION for the acceptance or otherwise of Shareholders as compromise proposed.

'Resolved that the claim made by Morechwar Bhalchandra and others, as the sole surviving co-partners of the joint Hindu Family consisted of themselves and Sir Bhalchandra Krishna in the High Court Suit No. 1196 of 1924 filed by them against this Company for Rs. 26,923-9-9 with interest thereon at 15 p.c. per annum from 4th January, 1921, till payment and Costs be adjusted in full settlement against this Company's Amended Counter-claim made in this suit against the said plaintiffs for Rs. 43,467-14-0 with interest thereon at 9 p.c. per annum and costs and that neither the plaintiffs nor this Company (the defendants in this suit) are to pay anything to one another, and that the sanction of the High Court be obtained on such sanction being obtained a consent decree be obtained in terms aforesaid and that this compromise is without prejudice to the Liquidator's rights to proceed against the Agents of this Company under the decree passed against them on 19-12-1924.'

If there will be no Quorum the meeting will be adjourned to the same day, time and place a week after i.e., on Thursday the 24th of February 1927.

G. K. DALAL,

Liquidator,

Ambaji Taranga Light Ry. Co. Ltd., (In Voluntary Liquidation).

Bombay 7th February, 1927.

28124

PUBLIC NOTICES.

NOTICE

STATE BALL AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

THE Carriages and Motor Cars of guests attending the State Ball at Government House on TUESDAY, the 8th February, 1927, will enter by the LOWER GATE, WALKESHWAR ROAD, and will leave by the Upper Gate to be parked outside Government House Grounds. The departure from the Ball will also be by the LOWER GATE.

2. On arrival at the platform, a ticket bearing a number will be issued to the occupant and one bearing a similar number will be affixed to the conveyance.

3. On departure, as conveyances come up, the numbers will be called, and should owners not be present on the platform their conveyances will be sent round.

4. Guests coming in motor cars will be well advised to have licensed chauffeurs in charge of their cars, as cars ordinarily will be parked in the order in which they arrive and the later the arrival, the farther will they be from Government House.

5. As the lower drive is very narrow and there are many horse carriages no vehicle should overtake another vehicle while passing up the lower drive towards Government House.

P. A. KELLY,

Commissioner of Police.

Head Police Office: Bombay, 5th February 1927.

25117

NOTICE

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE of timber will take place at Dandeli (M. & S. M. Ry.) on 7th March, 1927 and subsequent days as follows:—

Teak	Local top wood.	Sawn Material Tons.	G.I.P. crossing sleepers passed No.	Teak rejected sleepers passed No.
50	145	2309	226	60 (10 tons)
				1160

25 p.c. of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the bid and the balance within 3 months.

A. C. HILEY,

Divisional Forest Officer,

N. D. KANARA.

Dharwar, 3rd February, 1927.

28122

NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE INDIAN COMPANIES ACT VII OF 1913.

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMBAJI TARANGA LIGHT RAILWAY CO. LTD. (In Voluntary Liquidation.)

An ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders of this Company will be held in the Registered Office of the Company at No. 315, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay, on THURSDAY, the 17th of February 1927, at 4-30 p.m. (S.T.) when the Liquidator will submit his 6th year Report and statement of accounts before the Shareholders regarding the Liquidation.

If there will be no QUORUM, the Meeting will be adjourned to the same day, time and place a week after i.e., on THURSDAY, the 24th of February, 1927.

G. K. DALAL,

Liquidator,

The Ambaji Taranga Light Ry. Co. Ltd. (In Voluntary Liquidation).

Bombay, 7th February, 1927.

28125

TENDERS.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY

TENDERS ARE INVITED for the supply of diets to the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, Parel, Bombay, for one year commencing from 1st March, 1927. Tenders should be addressed to the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay and delivered at the office of the Chief Accountant, Municipal Offices, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay, not later than 1 p.m. (B.T.) on 12-2-1927. Tenders must be enclosed in sealed envelopes, which must be endorsed 'Tenders for the supply of Diets for the K. E. M. Hospital.'

Forms of contract, specifications, etc. and any other information that may be required will be supplied by the Secretary's Office, K. E. M. Hospital, Parel, Bombay, on personal application. A charge of Re. 1 will have to be paid for each set of tender forms. Names of all partners should be mentioned in the Tender.

JIVRAJ N. MEHTA,

Dean.

28107

TENDERS.

BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY COMPANY.

(Incorporated in England.)

NOTICE.

TENDERS for the supply of cut and split fire wood to the Locomotive Department during the period 1-1-1927 to 31-12-1927 are invited and will be received in the Agent's Office, B. B. & C. I. Railway, Church Gate, up to 1 p.m. on MONDAY, the 14th February, 1927.

Forms of tender can be obtained from the Locomotive and Carriage Superintendent, Parel, on payment of Rs. 2 per each form. Earnest money amounting to Rs. 100 (one hundred) in cash must be deposited with the Treasurer, B. G. system, Chief Auditor's Office, Bombay, by each tenderer and the receipt obtained for the same should be attached to the tender, otherwise it will not be considered.

(N.B.—Currency Notes should not be sent with the tender.) The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender and reserves the right to accept any tender in part or whole.

J. E. JACKSON,

Agent.

Church Gate,

27th January 1927.

28077

NOTICE.

NO. 1340

TENDERS ARE INVITED for the sale of Army woolen and cotton cuttings, remnants and sweepings, likely to be available at the Clothing Factory, Shahjahanpur, U. P. during 1927-28, to be opened by the undersigned at his office at 12 noon on the 19th March, 1927.

Form of tender and schedule can be obtained up to the 4th March, 1927, on application in writing.

(Sd.) F. DICKINS, LT. COL. I.A.C., Chief Ordnance Officer.

Clothing Factory, Shahjahanpur,

4th February, 1927.

28123

KING EDWARD VII MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, PAREL, BOMBAY.

TENDERS are invited for the supply of Drugs, Medicines, etc., to King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, Parel, Bombay, for one year commencing from 1st March, 1927.

Tenders should be addressed to the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay and delivered at the Office of the Chief Accountant, Municipal Offices, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay, not later than 1 p.m. (B.T.) on 15-2-1927. All tenders must be enclosed in sealed envelopes, which must be endorsed 'Tender for the supply of medicines etc., for the K. E. M. Hospital.'

Forms of contract, specifications, etc., and any other information that may be required will be supplied by the Secretary's Office, K. E. M. Hospital, Parel, Bombay, on personal application. A charge of Rs. 5/ will have to be paid for each set of copies of the tender.

Names of all the partners should be mentioned in the tender.

JIVRAJ N. MEHTA,

Dean.

28121

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

SUIT NO. 2635 OF 1926.

Messrs. DHANAMAL CHEL- LARAM, a firm Plaintiffs

VS.

Messrs. CHARRY AND CHAR- RY, a firm Defendants.

To

Messrs. CHARRY & CHARRY.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the plaintiffs have filed the above suit against you praying that you may be ordered to pay to the plaintiffs the sum of Rs. 5,990-3-3 and further interest at the rate of 9 per cent per annum till judgment costs and interest on judgment at 6 per cent per annum and that 9th day of March, 1927, is fixed for hearing and final disposal thereof.

MANCHERSHAW B. CHOTHIA & CO., Plaintiffs' Attorneys.

14 Humnum Street, Fort, Bombay.

28120

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 174 of 1927.

(1) JOSHI PRANJIVAN HAR- JIVAN, a firm, carrying on business in partnership at Mul- ji Jetha Market, outside the Fort of Bombay, (2) THE BHARAT SPINNING & WEAVING CO. LIMITED, a Joint Stock Company, incorporated under the Indian Companies Act VII of 1913 and having its registered Office at Bank Street, Fort, Bombay on behalf of themselves and all other creditors of late Khwaja Mahomed Hassan Dasfooli of Bombay Persian Mahomedan Merchant Plaintiffs

VS.

HAJIMAHOMED TAHER, of Bombay, Persian Mahomedan Inhabitant, residing at Dong- ri, outside the Fort of Bom- bay Defendants

To,

The Creditors of Khwaja Mahomed Hassan (deceased)

Notice Under Order I R. 8 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

PURSUANT to the Order made by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mirza on the 24th day of January, 1927, Notice is hereby given under Order I Rule 8 of the Code of Civil Procedure that the above suit has been filed by the Plaintiffs aforesaid on behalf of themselves and all other creditors of Khwaja Mahomed Hassan deceased late of Bombay Persian Inhabitant praying for the following reliefs:—

(a) That the estate of Khwaja Mahomed Hassan, deceased may be administered by and under the directions of this Hon'ble Court.

(b) That the Defendant may be ordered to account for all the estate of the deceased Khwaja Mahomed Hassan come to his hands on the footing of wilful default.

(c) That all accounts may be taken en- quiries made and directions given for the aforesaid purposes.

(d) That pending the hearing and final disposal of this suit a fit and proper person may be appointed Receiver of the Estate of the said Khwaja Mahomed Hassan with all necessary power for realizing the same and for taking all necessary steps for the preservation of the said estate.

(e) That the Defendant may be restrained by an order and injunction of this Hon'ble Court from realizing the said estate or dealing or inter- meddling with it in any manner whatsoever.

(f) That the Defendant may be ordered to pay the plaintiffs costs of the suit or that the same may be otherwise provided for.

(g) For further and other relief.

And take further Notice that the hearing of the suit has been fixed for the 16th day of February, 1927.

Dated this 5th day of February, 1927.

(Sd.) R. B. PATEL,

Ag. Prothonotary.

(Sd.) E. J. DAVAR

The 5th day of February 1927.

Messrs. EDGELOW GULABCHAND

WADIA & CO.

Plaintiffs' Attorneys.

28118

SALE WILL BE HELD AT AHMEDNAGAR.

AUCTION SALE OF THE WELL- KNOWN THE GEORGE ICE FACTORY AT AHMEDNAGAR.

Messrs. CRAWFORD & CO. will sell by Public Auction on SATURDAY, the 19th February, 1927, at 4-30 p.m. (S.T.) ON SITE, the well-known THE GEORGE ICE FACTORY situated at No. 7, Native Infantry Line, next to Dak Bungalows, consisting of 40 H.P. C.C. type Ruston Proc- ured Oil Engine with self-starter, Lindsay 3 ton Ammonia ice plant complete with open air, condenser, ice tank, pumps, crane etc. and spare parts, 40 ice moulds, tools and implements, shaftings, pulleys, belts, etc.; for the ice plant and the engine together with the factory premises, out houses and big bungalow formerly known as Officers' Mess and bounded on or towards the East by the compound of bungalow No. 6, on or towards the West by the open Government land, on or to- wards the North by Ontram Road and on or towards the South by the ground and the road leading to Dak Bungalow and ad- measuring from East to West about 387 feet and 453 feet on the Northern and Southern sides respectively from North to South about 504 feet and 561 feet on the Eastern and Western sides respectively and situate at Ontram Road in Ahmedna- gar Cantonment.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, please apply to the undersigned.

CRAWFORD & CO.

..... Auctioneers.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 2637 of 1926.

Messrs. HIRANAND VALIRAM, a firm Plaintiffs.

VS.

Messrs. CHARRY AND CHAR- RY, a firm Defendants.

To

Messrs. CHARRY & CHARRY.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the plain- tiffs have filed the above suit against you praying that you may be ordered to pay to the plaintiffs the sum of Rs. 5,943-9-9 and further interest at the rate of 9 per cent per annum, till judgment, costs and interest on judgment at 6 per cent per annum and that the 9th day of March, 1927, has been fixed for hearing and final disposal thereof.

MANCHERSHAW B. CHOTHIA & CO., Plaintiffs' Attorneys.

14 Humnum Street, Fort, Bombay.

28127

AUCTION SALES.

CRAWFORD & CO. AUCTIONEERS.

AUCTION SALE OF THE INSOLV- ENTS, RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST IN THE VALUABLE IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY AT GREEN MARKET CROSS LANE OTHERWISE CALLED MIRCHA MARKET LANE.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDI- CATURE AT BOMBAY.

Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction

Suit No. 1369 of 1924.

Fatmabai Abdul Rasool and anr. Plaintiffs.

VS.

Ebrahim Mulla Abdul Houssein and others Defendants.

AND

In Insolvency,

Nos. 1119 and 1146 of 1923.

In the matter of the petition of Ebrahim Mulla Abdul Houssein Patla and Abdul Ka- dar Mulla Abdul Houssein Patla traded as Ebrahim Ab- dul Kadar Insolvents

Under instructions from B. N. Lang, Esq., the Official Assignee of Bombay and Assignee of the estate and effects of Ebrahim Mulla Abdul Houssein Patla and Abdul Kadar Mulla Abdul Houssein Patla (In- solvents) and with the consent of the parties to the said Suit and also with the consent of Abdul Tyab Heptullahoy, the legal representative of the Mortgagee, and pursuant to the Consent Final Decree here- in dated the 1st day of September, 1926, in the above Suit and the Order dated the 17th day of January, 1927, by the Com- missioner in Insolvency, Messrs. CRAW- FORD & CO. Auctioneers, will sell by public auction TO-MORROW (WEDNES- DAY), THE 9TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1927, AT 4-30 P.M. (S.T.) ON THE PREMISES, all the right, title and inter- est of all the parties to the said Suit and of the legal representative of the Mort- gagee and of the said insolvents in the prop- erty described below.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY.

All that piece or parcel of Fazandari land or ground together with the messu- age tenement or dwelling house and pre- mises standing thereon situate and being at Green Market Cross Lane otherwise called Mircha Market Lane without the Fort of Bombay on the south side thereof in the Registration Sub-District of Bom- bay containing by admeasurements 50 69 bay and six-ninths square yards or there- abouts assessed by the Collector of Muni- cipal Taxes Ward C. No. 517 Street, Nos. 23, 25, 27 and 29, hearing Collector's New Survey No. 1860 and bounded as follows, that is to say on or towards the East by a Sweeper's passage, on or towards the West and South by the properties of the late Vijbhukhandas Atmaram and on or towards the North by the said Green Mar- ket Cross Lane, and which said dwelling house and premises are now in the occupa- tion of tenants.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, please apply to Messrs. Daphnar Ferreira and Divan, Attorneys for the Of- ficial Assignee of Bombay at their office at 1319, Meadows Street, Fort, Bombay, or to the undersigned.

SALE WILL BE HELD AT AHMEDNAGAR.

AUCTION SALE OF THE WELL- KNOWN THE GEORGE ICE FACTORY AT AHMEDNAGAR.

M

AMUSEMENTS.



COLLEEN MOORE
Irene
9 REELS
adapted from the famous Musical Comedy.
It's a Sensation! And a CIRCUS of FUN!
filled with reels of wonderful natural colours.
PATHE SUPER GAZETTE.
TIME: 6.15, 8.15 & 10 P.M.
PATHE CINEMA, Royal Opera House.

EXCELSIOR THEATRE

6-30 and 10 p.m.
First and Greatest Comedy in 10 Reels of
Never-ending Mirth.
"THE GOLD RUSH"
Featuring
CHARLIE CHAPLIN.

EDWARD THEATRE

6-30, 8-15 and 10 p.m.
Grand Comic Programme. It'll shiver your
Timbers.
CHARLIE CHAPLIN
in **"THE PILGRIM"**
Also
(2) Mack Sennett Comedies of 2 Parts Each.
"On PETROL & DUCK HUNTERS"

LAST

NIGHT — NIGHT
AT 9-30 P.M.

SPECIAL ATTRACTION

DIRECT FROM

KEITH THEATRE, NEW YORK,
AMERICA.

KARLEKAR'S
GRAND CIRCUS

Nana's Chowk (Opposite Gwalia Tank
Fire Brigade)

First appearance in India

OF

HOMAZ DUO

AMERICA'S MOST VAUDE-
VILLE ARTISTS

in their

MID-AIR GYROSCOPIC ACT

DARE DEVIL JENKINS

THE LEAP FOR LIFE ON HIS

Harvey Davidson Motor-Cycle 45 ft. in

Mid-air through Flames of Fire.

Visit the Supreme Show and get the

greatest return of your money.

Dadar Near New Bridge Grand Opening

Night on Thursday 10th February. 1927

AT 9.30 P.M.

THE ORIGINAL FIRM

of

OCULISTS and OPTICIANS.

DINSHAW M.

DASTOOR & Co.,

By Special Appointment

to

H. E. H. The Nizam of Hyderabad,

G. C. S. I. C. B. E.

M. H. The Maharaja of Mysore

G. C. S. I. G. R. E. C. E. A.

O. P. N. A. D. (Madras) who has just

returned from England having gained high

est qualifications in Visual and Ophthal-

mic Optics available in Great Britain.

rates are very moderate and our work

prompt and accurate.

Please note our address carefully and do

not mix us up with firms of similar name



71, Esplanade Road, Near Currency Bank

and Opposite Bombay Club, Fort.

Daily Consultations of a qualified Ophthal-

mic Surgeon from Royal London Moor-

fields' Ophthalmic Hospital and that of

O. P. N. A. D. (Madras) who has just

returned from England having gained high

est qualifications in Visual and Ophthal-

mic Optics available in Great Britain.

rates are very moderate and our work

prompt and accurate.

Please note our address carefully and do

not mix us up with firms of similar name

MONEY MARKET.

EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

B C RATE—

Bank's selling T T 1/5 29/32.

Bank's selling D D 1/5 15/16.

LONDON—

Bank's selling T T 1/5 15/10.

Bank's selling D D 1/5 31/32.

Bank's buying 3 M st D A 1/6 1/4.

Bank's buying T T 1/6.

Bank's buying D D 1/6 1/32.

PARIS—

Bank's selling D D Fres. 872.

Bank's buying 3 M st D A 912.

Bank's buying D D Fres. 927.

JAPAN—

Bank's selling T T Rs. 134 3/4.

Bank's buying 60 D st D P Rs. 130 3/4.

HONGKONG—

Bank's selling Rs. 144.

SHANGHAI—

Bank's selling D D Rs. 186.

SINGAPORE—

Bank's selling D D Rs. 156 1/4.

NEW YORK—

Bank's selling D D Rs. 275 1/2.

CROSS RATE—

London—New York Del. 4.84-13/16.

London—Paris Fres. 123.35.

London—Switzerland Fres. 25.21.

London—Brussels Fres. 34.875.

London—Roma Liras 113.60.

London—Berlin Marks 20.47.

Tone of Exchange. Steady market.

LONDON DISCOUNTS.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

2 months 4.5/32 per cent.

6 months 4.5/32 per cent.

Bank of England rate 5 per cent.

Money Call 5 1/2 per cent.

1 month 5 per cent.

3 months 5 per cent.

6 months 5 per cent.

Tone of Money Market: Steady.

Imperial Bank rate: 6 per cent.

LIVERPOOL WEEKLY COTTON

STATISTICS.

Liverpool Feb. 5.

The weekly cotton statistics as compiled

by the Statistical Department of the Liver-

pool Cotton Exchange are as follows:—

Bales.

Total in Sight 14,733,000

Egyptian Cotton, Visible Supply 582,000

East Indian Cotton 95,000

American Cotton 7,188,000

Other Cotton 350,000

Total Sales 46,000

East Indian Cotton Sales 1,300

Total Speculation 1,300

Total Exported 1,300

East Indian Cotton, Exported 6,900

East Indian Cotton, Stock 400

East Indian Cotton, Forward 100

East Indian Cotton, Actual Export 100

East Indian Cotton, Imports 2,000

East Indian Cotton, Speculation 199,000

East Indian Cotton Afloat 8,000

Total Afloat 258,000

Takeings of the World's Spinners

American cotton 438,000

COFFEE.

New York, Feb. 5.

Fair Rio Coffee, (No. 7, quality), Spot

14 11/16.

LONDON RUBBER.

London, Feb. 5.

Smoked Sheet, Standard, Ribbed, lb.

Spot 1/6s. 3/4d. buyers.

Smoked Sheet, Standard, Ribbed, lb.

Spot 1/6s. 7/8d. sellers.

Pale Crepe lb., Spot 1/6s. 1 1/2d. buyers.

Pale Crepe, lb., Spot 1/6s. 3/4d. sel-

lers.

SILVER MARKET.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

Yesterday the local silver market ruled

very steady. March delivery opened at

Rs. 62/14 and improved to Rs. 63/4. Fagan

after opening at Rs. 62/ advanced on short

covering to Rs. 62/6. To-day the market is

quiet but steady. Recently China banks

were sellers in London market, so it is an-

icipated that on re-opening of the markets,

some bearish feeling is likely to prevail.

However the local situation remains strong

owing to shortage of stocks and sellers have

taken a cautious attitude. The premium

of double options are ruling very high.

Mah is quoted at Rs. 1/11 and Fagan about

Rs. 2/10. This shows that the feeling is

not chrysalized in the market and some

wide fluctuations are expected by the local

operators. The closing tone of the market

to day was quiet but steady as under:—

Ready Silver Rs. 63-14-0.

Mah Deliver Rs. 63-10-0.

Fagan Delivery Rs. 62-12-0.

GOLD MARKET.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

The Gold market ruled firm with improved

enquiry. Some business is being done for

Chaitra delivery about three-fourths of an

anna above Fagan quotations. Double

options premium for Chaitra is quoted at

Aa. 6/-. The closing prices remained as

under:—

Ready Gold 21 9 9.

Mah Delivery 21 9 6.

Fagan Delivery 21 10 0.

STOCK EXCHANGE.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

The Bombay Stock Exchange is closed

BOMBAY COTTON MARKET.

N. Y.—Advanced on Bull Support—Futures closed 12 to 15 Higher—Spot improved 15 points at 14.15c.

Local.—Advanced on bull support and shorts

covering. Closed Firm.

PRIVATE CABLES AND REPORTS.

Messrs. Patel Bros. have received the following cable:—
New York.—May Highest 1408. Lowest 13.94.

Messrs. Unrigar and Vengar's New York friends Messrs. A. Narden and Co. cable under date 4th inst. as under:—
"Farm relief legislation likely. Market looks higher."

Messrs. Brand and Co.'s Report states:—
The advance in America is apparently based on renewed hopes of Government introducing some form of legislation in respect of surplus crops, but we are entirely in the dark concerning the details of the proposed relief measures. If prices continue to advance the inducement to curtail acreage will vanish, particularly if legislation is introduced which will assure the Farmers of Government assistance should the new crop again give a supply far in excess of the demand.

Until we know something more about the action, if any, which the American Government is contemplating, it is impossible to speak with any conviction about the probable course of the market, but we will be surprised if no reaction is seen in the near future.

AMERICANS.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

On Saturday the New York futures market ruled very steady on bull support and no pressure of hedge selling. Futures closed 12 to 16 points higher and spot prices improved 15 points at 14.15c.

The New Orleans Cotton market closed steady at 12 to 13 points higher. Spot prices burdened 13 points at 13.83c.

The Liverpool market ruled quiet but steady values showing an improvement of 7 to 9 points. Spot sales are reduced to 4,000 bales and it appears that Lancashire has no inclination to buy freely.

Owing to proposals of legislation to control the surplus supply of cotton, the market received a new stimulant, with more buying by bulls in America. However the situation is more two sided at the moment and we give below the findings of Bulls and Bears. We ourselves believe that even though prices may be pushed higher in the near future, we think it risky to follow the advance at the moment.

BULLS.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

1. The spinning figures indicate that Bureau's final estimate will not be reached.
2. Some legislation is likely to be passed by the American Government in connection with the surplus stocks of cotton.
3. Recently the textile trade of Ameri-

BREUL & CO.'S MARKET REPORT.

RECEIPTS INTO BOMBAY.

Bombay, Feb. 7th

Since 1st September

In full—previously This Last

Bales. 5-2-27 Year Year

Khandesh .. 2,922 2,587,708 2,2,854

Central India .. 2,304 1,62,394 2,24,026

Rand and Nagar .. 1,465 1,33,737 1,29,338

Hyderabad-Gaonri .. 755 44,551 45,636

Berar .. 6,141 3,62,838 2,76,543

Central Provinces .. 1,532 1,31,322 1,42,749

Total Oomras 15,169 10,93,550 10,53,939

Dholera .. 914 46,084 1,20,638

N. W. Provinces .. 157 50,109 1,21,774

Rajputana .. 67 21,270 56,682

Coast Ports .. 148 70,463 1,42,087

Sindh-Punjab .. 239 63,638

Broach .. 20,030 13,729

Compts & Dharwar .. 9,133 8,230

Westerns-Northern .. 395 1,473

Cannada .. 0 4,603 6,441

Tinnevely and Can- .. 2,874 2,117

bodia .. 73,728 143

Persian .. 21,615 30,529

American .. 1 50 439

Egyptian and African .. 17,005 11,13,043 16,21,634

Comilla, Burma & Other sorts.

Total 17,005 11,13,043 16,21,634

EXPORTS FROM BOMBAY.

1st Sept. to 3rd Feb.

In full—previously This year, Last year

Bales 5-2-27

Europe .. 392 1,24,191 2,29,542

Japan & China .. 4,800 2,18,186 6,60,693

Coast Ports .. 6,339 12,379

Up-country by Rail .. 46,091 4,363

Afloat in harbour for Europe

China and Japan .. 76,115 1,73,705

Total .. 5,192 7,69,922 10,76,682

PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

Receipts of various raw produce into Bom-

bay upto noon 5th inst.

cwts.

Wheat .. 2,

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS.

February 7.
S S Nankai Maru, Koyakawa, Calcutta.
S S Walhandel, Seruth, Slettin.
S S Rajula, Monro, Karachi.
S S Castalia, Alder, Liverpool.
S S Crecovia, Quarantotto, Trieste.
S S Ockenfels, Kockens, Hamburg.
S S Warina, Seabrook, Rangoon.
S S Jalavihar, Baker, Moumchin.

DEPARTURE.

February 8.
S S Shingo Maru, Yamamoto, Kobe.

LOADING.

February 7.
Steamer Bhadrar for Calcutta.
Steamer Castalia for Liverpool.
Steamer Axenfelds for Karachi.
Steamer Gazona for Rangoon.
Steamer Karoa for Durban.
Steamer Crecovia for Trieste.
S S Nankai Maru.—The steamer Nankai Maru arrived in harbour yesterday from Calcutta with a cargo of coal.
S S Walhandel.—The Steindia S N Co.'s steamer Walhandel arrived in harbour yesterday from Slettin, with a cargo of sugar.
S S Jalavihar.—The Steindia S N Co.'s steamer Jalavihar arrived in harbour yesterday from Moumchin, with a cargo of rice.
S S Warina.—The B I S N Co.'s steamer Warina, arrived in harbour yesterday from Rangoon with a general cargo.
S S Ockenfels.—The L. Edward Ltd. steamer Ockenfels arrived in harbour yesterday from Hamburg, with a general cargo.
S S Crecovia.—The L. Triesteino Co.'s steamer Crecovia, arrived in harbour yesterday from Trieste, with a general cargo and 90 passengers.
S S Castalia.—The Anchor Line steamer Castalia, arrived in harbour yesterday from Liverpool, with a general cargo and passengers.
S S Shingo Maru.—The O S Kaisha steamer Shingo Maru, will sail to-day from Bombay harbour for Kobe, with a general cargo.

EXPORTS.

February 7.
S S Rajputana for London.—15 cases Jabulpar bottles J. A. Begbie and Co. Ltd., 18 bales goat skins and 3 bales sheep skins H. R. Rehmanbhai and Co., 700 cwt rapeseed and 262 cwt niger seed E. Danner and Co., 10 tons cassia Polons Mfg. Co., 4 cases empty cylinder Greaves Cotton Co. Ltd., 72 cwt cement M. Poonjaji and Son, 4 bales lamb skins and 6 bales fox skins H. A. M. Sawal, 1 cases Indian curios and 2 bales woollen carpets M. M. and Co., 91 mds walnut kernels M. M. and Co., 1 pkg. woollen rugs, 1 case wooden tables, 1 case provision, 5 pkgs. personal effects Grindlay and Co. Ltd., 2 bales woollen rugs, 10 pkgs. household utensils, 9 pkgs. household effects and clothing Grindlay and Co. Ltd., 24 bales carpets F. Hajioff, 1 case oil engine Duncan Strattin and Co., 16 cwt condiments and 112 cwt ginger M. M. Poonjaji and Co., 40 cwt fish bones S. Monjee and Co., 6 pots rose oil, 7 pots ginger grass oil, and 25 cases M. O. P. sheets E. Varje and Co., 6 bales sheep skins Meyer Nissim, 32 cases goat skins Nizanjuddha and Co., 25 cwt chutney and 21 cwt condiment F. Noyroji, 8 bales fox skins H. A. Ebrahimoff, 5 bales samoor skins and jessal skin H. A. Ebrahimoff, 37 bales woollen carpets and 1 bdl saddle bags H. A. Ebrahimoff, 6 bales fox skins Cox and King's Shipping Agency Ltd., 65 bales cotton and woollen cutting 50 bales hemp, M. Samjee, 1 case cotton print Cox and King's Shipping Agency Ltd.

For Constantinople.—125 cwt mendi powder A. E. L. Ejl.
For Marcelline.—1 tons cassia pods Cox and King's Shipping Agency Ltd.
For Gibraltar.—cwt brassware and 2 cwt provision Pooomull Bros.
S S Warfield for Hamburg.—56 bales cotton raw Ralli Bros.
S S Ariosto for Dunkirk.—214 bales raw cotton Ralli Bros.
For Hull.—2300 cwt castor seed, Ralli Bros.

S S Barcelona.—400 cwt Indian linseed Ralli Bros.
S S Castalia for Liverpool.—300 cwt groundnut oil Moosabbay and Co., 3125 cwt myrabolans G. Jeevanlal and Co.
For Glasgow.—5000 cwt groundnut oil cakes Moosabbay and Co.

For Manchester.—1 casing scrap iron Greaves Cotton Co. Ltd.
S S Crecovia for Trieste.—55 bales cotton waste and 55 bales cotton fly K. Vishram and Co.

For Venice.—1000 cwt hyacinth Ralli Bros.
S S Tamba Maru for Kobe.—200 bales raw cotton J. Devjee and Co., 500 bales raw cotton G. K. Kaisha Ltd.

For Moji.—500 bales raw cotton T. M. Kaisha Ltd., 200 bales raw cotton Japan Cotton Trading Co. Ltd.

For Nagoya.—600 bales raw cotton G. K. Kaisha Ltd., 500 bales raw cotton Japan Cotton Trading Co. Ltd.

For Hongkong.—50 cases shark fins R. Dhav and Co., 6 cwt ghee and 2 cases castor oil M. E. A. Trebhakhin, 52 cwt apricots and 15 cwt dry fruits R. Monji and Co.

For Osaka.—700 bales raw cotton T. M. Kaisha Ltd.

For Shanghai.—100 bales raw cotton Japan Cotton Trading Co. Ltd.

For Nagasaki.—200 bales raw cotton Japan Cotton Trading Co. Ltd.

S S Nippon for Venice.—110 bales raw cotton Volkart Bros. Ltd., 55 bales raw cotton K. Devchand and Co. Ltd.

For Trieste.—155 bales raw cotton K. Devchand and Co. Ltd.

S S Shingo Maru for Kobe.—200 bales raw cotton G. K. Kaisha Ltd.

For Moji.—200 bales raw cotton G. K. Kaisha Ltd.

S S Riverway for Osaka.—200 bales raw cotton Ralli Bros.

IMPORTS.

February 7.
S S Hajia from Antwerp. Agents: Lionel Edwards.
From Antwerp.—1751 bales sleepers 1515 bales, 754 pieces and 6 cases mild steel sheets, 46 pieces steel, 296 cases window glass, 11 cases flour, 210 cwt, 1100 bales and 17 cwt extended mild, 244 pieces rails, 14 bales cotton cutting 226 bales and 5 cases wool, 19 cases, 150 bales and 411 pkgs. bolts and nuts, 65 bales fish plates, 10 cases acetate of soda, 39 cwt phosphoric acid, 2000

BOMBAY SCHOOL OF ART-STUDENTS' WORK.



This is a reproduction of water-colour picture, representing the marriage of Shiva and Parvati.



This is a Draped Figure from Life (no modelling class). These and many other works of art may be seen at the Exhibition which will be opened to-day by the Governor.



'Chronicle' Photo.
Lady Wilson awarding the Gold Cup to Mr. Robinson, the trainer of Aga Khan's 'Quince', who won the Eclipse Stake.

Jamshed Century	3 12 0
Pearl Pabany Hindustan No. 903	3 15 0
LACK CHECK:—	
5806 Sholapur	10 8 0
2020 Jacob	5 8 0
5600 Kuria	8 4 0
1255 Moraji	5 6 0

GABRUN No. 5124:—	
Pearl Pabany Hindustan	7 5 0
E. D. Rachael	7 8 0
SALITA:—	
Century	Per lb. 0 13 6
Textile	" 0 13 6
Spring (Merchant)	" 0 13 6

STRIPPED SADI'S Yards 12:—	
777 Kohinoor	Per piece 2 4 0
777 Crescent	" 2 2 0
Apollon David	" 2 2 0

DUKDI Yards 12-13-14:—	
Kanta	Per lb. 1 0 9
Great	" 1 0 6
Phoenix	" 1 1 0
Kohinoor	" 1 1 0
Tata	" 1 0 6

CHADAR Kori Calender:—	
Hindustan	Per lb. 0 15 0
David	" 0 14 6
Mahal	" 0 14 6

MANCHESTER TRADE REPORT.	
Manchester, Jan. 27.	

LONG CLOTH (Light weight) No. 6202/5303	
Rachael Mill	Per lb. 0 14 9
Hindustan Mill	" 0 14 9
David Mill	" 0 14 9
Apollon	" 0 14 6

LONG CLOTH x Quality:—	
Swan Finlay	0 14 6
Gold Mohor	0 14 0

LONG CLOTH Satin Calender 34-42 In:—	
Textile (Band)	per lb. 0 13 9
Spring (Merchant)	" 0 13 6
Century (Bugle)	" 0 13 6
Apollon, Pyralay	" 0 13 6
Tata Mill (Darji)	" 0 14 0
Sakuntala	" 0 13 9
Sundari Brand	" 0 13 3
Globe	" 0 13 6
Rachael	" 0 13 6
Pezzhi	" 0 13 6
Kahor	" 0 13 9

LEPAD:—	
Spring	" 0 14 0
Textile	" 0 14 0
Century	" 0 13 6
Mohor	" 0 13 6

WHOOTIES 7, 8, 9 Yards:—	
Spring (Balance)	Per lb. 1 0 0
Jacob	" 0 15 0
Century	" 0 15 3
Mun Mill	" 0 15 6

WHOOTIES 10 Yards:—	
Spring (Balance)	" 0 15 0
Century	" 0 14 3
Jacob	" 0 14 3
Mun Mill	" 0 15 0
1388 Tata	" 2 12 0

HECK GREY DRILL 3 lbs. 6:—	
Bombay Cotton	Per piece 3 12 0

AN ELECTION PETITION.	
CALCUTTA, Feb. 6.	

Arguments in the case in which the election of Mr. Chaurachandra Sinha to the Bengal Council from Howrah, non-Muslim constituency has been challenged by the defeated Swarajist candidate, Mr. K. N. Ganguly, were concluded yesterday at Alipore.	
--	--

Mr. Ganguly that the order of the Returning Officer rejecting Mr. Ganguly's nomination paper was bad and unsustainable, because the classification of voters into males and females and the heading 'Male Electors' printed on the electoral roll of the constituency was unauthorised and illegal.	
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Judgment was reserved by the Special Commissioners.—Free Press.	
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ing their appreciation and thankfulness to the above donors and also to the Committee of the Bombay Presidency Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society for sanctioning a liberal donation of Rs. 8,000 for the permanent endowment of a bed to be called the "Red Cross Bed" at the Hospital, would commend this generous action to others who may be in a position to contribute their mite towards the funds of this Hospital similarly.	
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A considerable amount of repair work to the Building is still to be carried out although a sum of Rs. 1,100, only could be spent during the year under review, out of the funds of the Hospital, to carry out the repairing work that was most urgently needed. Estimates received in this connection show that a sum of Rs. 32,160 is yet necessary to carry out the rest of the repairing work.	
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ADAMS-WYLIE HOSPITAL.

LADY WILSON TO VISIT ON FRIDAY

Her Excellency Lady Wilson has accepted the Managing Committee's invitation to visit the Hospital on Friday, (the 11th inst.) at 5 p.m. (S. T.)

ORIGIN OF HOSPITAL.

This Hospital was started by Mrs. Adams-Wylie in 1902 in memory of her husband the late Lieut. C. R. B. Adams-Wylie, I.M.S., who was on Plague duty in Bombay and then went to South Africa during the Boer war, where he died of Bheric fever. Mrs. Adams-Wylie helped him a good deal while on plague duty.

In 1900 an unusually large number of roadside deaths occurred in Bombay and Mrs. Adams-Wylie took charge of the Camp put up for these poor and helpless people in October of that year. Finding a great need for a shelter for such people during illness she worked for them till 1902, when she offered to build a Hospital for such people and continue to work for them free, if the Municipality would meet the working expenses. As the Municipality did not accept this offer she put up the present Hospital and lived on the premises during Matron's work, dressing wounds etc., and spending her own money for the homeless floating population from which the majority of our patients come. Some philanthropic people of Bombay organised a small fund and though this relieved the strain to some extent it was not much. Mrs. Adams-Wylie has already financed the Hospital to such an extent that the Committee do not think it fair to approach her for further additional help. They desire to bring the claims of this Hospital to the notice of the charitable public and to that end beg to lay before you the attached statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st December 1925, together with the Medical Report on the large number of cases treated at the Hospital.

It will be seen from the accounts that had it not been for the liberal donation of Rs. 5,000, received from the Western Indian Turf Club and the annual grant of Rs. 4,000 from the Bombay Municipality together with the donations of Rs. 1,000 each from the Trustees of Sir Ratan Tata's Estate and the N. M. Wadia Charities, the year's working would have resulted in a heavy deficit. The Committee in express-

MUNICIPAL MARKET STALLS

PROPOSED TAKING OF DEPOSIT.

"During the last two years the Municipal authorities are experiencing great difficulties in respect of the collection of quarterly amounts due for the use and occupation of stalls in Municipal markets. The stalls are let subject to the conditions of the license, one of which requires that the quarterly amounts for the use and occupation of the stalls shall be paid in advance on the beginning of every quarter. It is generally found that stall holders do not abide by this condition in spite of repeated demands from the Market staff and their rents are in arrears even to the extent of the amounts due for two or three quarters. To provide a check against such stall holders and make them pay the dues in time a system of levying fines was introduced which was discontinued as it sometimes entailed genuine hardship on the stall holders.

In many cases it is found that the stall holders do not give a month's notice of their intention to vacate the stalls as required by the conditions of the license. Some give such notices a few days before vacating whereas others abscond without any intimation whatsoever. In many cases the holders go up-country or keep the stalls unworked and no trace can be found of them. In such cases there is no alternative but to take possession of the stalls. This kind of behaviour on the part of stall holders deprives the Municipality of its legitimate revenue. During the year 1925-26 in 129 cases the stall holders absconded without notice or else with notices of less than a month and in 8 cases rents had to be written off and in 7 cases suits had to be filed. To safeguard the Municipal interests it has been thought advisable to insist upon a deposit from each stall holder equal to the quarterly amount for the use and occupation of each stall. Such

BOMBAY RACES.

BIG MEETING—SECOND DAY.

ACCEPTANCES.

THE BOMBAY ARAB DERBY.—Distance about 1-1/2 miles.
Winner, Rs. 10,000; second, Rs. 3,000; third, Rs. 2,000. Terms for Arabs in Classes I and II.

Dilawar 9-11; Hyder Pasha 9-8; Detective 9-1; Mansoor 8-5; Beg 9-0; Bucknell 9-0; Mikado 8-12; Hilla-luzzaman 8-12; Arabian Star 8-11; Rariy 8-9; Solomon's Song 8-9; Riyad 8-8; Selman 8-8; Squire 8-5; France 8-5; Mutsahar 8-5; Fairdross 8-2; Amanra 8-3; Mooltan 7-8.

THE KOLHAPUR PLATE (Div. I).—Distance 1 mile.

Winner, Rs. 2,500; second, Rs. 750; third, Rs. 500. A Handicap for Arabs in Class II.
Sabir 9-3; Andhra Valley 8-4; Arab Prince 8-13; Costa Rica 8-9; Sultan Beg 8-7; Jalmood 8-5; Security 8-4; Zoolfakar 8-1; Ahvid 8-1; Hishan 8-1; Cosack 8-0; Kurdiagan 7-13; Mahmood 7-9; Apollo 7-8; Maxira 7-5.

THE KOLHAPUR PLATE (Div. II).—Distance 1 mile.

Winner, Rs. 2,500; second, Rs. 750; third, Rs. 500. A Handicap for Arabs in Class II.
Pekin 9-3; Kadir Hajar 9-2; Talafer 8-8; Hatchel 8-7; Hazal 8-7; Amara 8-3; Kadoor Beg 8-2; Belan 8-2; Dawood 8-0; Mijra 7-13; Sannyet 7-9; Salome 7-8; Farooq 7-5.

THE BROOME PLATE (Div. I). Distance 7 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 3,500; second, Rs. 1,250; third, Rs. 500. A Handicap for Horses in Class III.
Pom Pom 9-7; Saintly Sovereign 9-2; Riverine 9-1; Prose and Verse 8-13; Motu Proprio 8-12; Glen Tree 8-9; Adour 7-10; Hanonia 7-10.

THE BROOME PLATE (Div. II).—Distance 7 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 3,500; second, Rs. 1,250; third, Rs. 500. A Handicap for Horses in Class III.

Via Volta 9-2; Greek Lad 8-10; Special Sprout 9-2; Georgina 9-0; Lembas 9-0; Tougat 8-13; Arrow 8-12; Polychrome 8-8; Shiva Kumari 8-0; Theona 7-10; Sophie 11-7-2.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE STAKES (Div. I).—Distance 1 mile, 1 furlong.

Winner, Rs. 10,000; second, Rs. 3,000; third, Rs. 2,000. A Handicap for Horses in Classes II and III.
Domestic Bond 9-4; My Realm 8-11; Bridgman 8-7; Rackle 8-5; Mamon 8-3; Chrysolite 8-4; Valtol 8-3; Lucky Lad 8-3; Dark Blue 8-0; Cuckoo 7-10; Dry Wit 7-5; Vainqueur 7-4; Radha Piri 7-4.

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE STAKES (Div. II).—Distance 1 mile, 1 furlong.

Winner, Rs. 7,000; second, Rs. 2,500; third, Rs. 1,000. A Handicap for Horses in Classes II and III.
Special Sprout 9-2; Fun of the Fayre 9-1; Bridal 9-0; Lucky Man 8-12; Motu Proprio 8-11; Rosewater 8-9; Free and Easy 8-8; Urutit 8-7; Kilindini 8-3; Toss Up 8-3; Charles William 8-1; Royal 8-0; Shiva Kumari 7-12; Tres Facile 7-11.

THE RAJPIPLA GOLD CUP.—Distance 1 mile.

A Gold Cup value Rs. 2,500 presented by H. H. the Maharaja of Rajpipla and Rs. 23,000 from the Fund. Winner, the Cup and Rs. 15,000; second Rs. 5,000; third, Rs. 3,000.

A Handicap for Horses in Class I.

Quincy 9-7; Frater 9-4; Greenfinch 9-2; Affable 8-12; Moss 8-7; My Lord 8-7; French Brat 8-5; L. S. D. 8-3; Dariat II 7-13; Heron 7-12; The Count 7-9; Key it Dark 7-9; Joe's Luck 7-8; Krishnakumari 7-6; Frey 7-6.

THE MALABAR HILL PLATE.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 12,000; second, Rs. 4,000; third, Rs. 2,000. A Handicap for Horses in Class I.

Quincy 9-5; Frater 9-2; Madame Seguin 9-0; Affable 8-12; Stone Mar 8-10; Cheviot 8-7; Eddy 8-4; Defend 8-3; The Monk 8-2; L. S. D. 8-1; Wedding Day 8-0; Dariat II 7-12; Golden Quest 7-6; Eltonian 7-9.

THE ADELAIDE PLATE.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Winner, Rs. 6,000; second, Rs. 2,000; third, Rs. 1,000. A Handicap for Horses in Class II.

File d'Or 9-0; Heera Mahal 8-12; Bright Bird 11-8-7; Cintra 8-6; Very Little 8-5; Brissada 8-2; Murmansk 8-1; Quitch 8-1; Songe Dore 8-0; Vessingon Planet 7-13; Incinola 7-12; Lowburn 7-10; Beaver Puff 7-8; Henriep 7-1; The Bow 7-7; Fire Star 7-1; Dalesman 7-0.

deposits will be refunded to the stallholder in every case on vacating a Municipal stall if the clause regarding notice has been completed, with an dall stall rent claims have been paid by him. Notice demanding the deposits for the due performance and observance of the conditions of the license have been served on the stallholders. Since then certain threats of a general haral on the part of the stallholders have been made. In view of these threats, this summary of the facts is published for general information.

SAVE YOUR :: :: : Income-Tax by CONSULTING PAREKH & Co.

Incorporated Certified Accountants, Public Accountants, Auditors, Income-Tax and Super Tax Experts
Office: M. P. Baris Building, Pydhony Bombay

BOMBAY CITY AND SUBURBS.

ENGAGEMENTS.

TO-DAY.

Annual prize distribution and exhibition of work of students of J. J. Art School, 5-15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8.
Municipal Standing Committee, 4-10 p.m.

THURSDAY, Feb. 9.
Municipal Corporation, 8-40 p.m.
Devonian Society Dinner, Willington Sports Club, 8-30 p.m.

FRIDAY, Feb. 10.
Mr. T. D. Kapadia's lecture on "Bijapur Architecture", York Building, Hornby Road, 6-15 p.m.
Lady Wilson visits Adams-Wythe Hospital, Gilder Street, Jacob Circle, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, Feb. 11.
The s.s. Rajputana with the English mails sails at 1 p.m.

INDIAN NATIONAL PARTY.

A meeting of the Council of the Bombay City Committee of the Indian National Party will be held in Pettit Building, Hornby Road, Fort to-day (Tuesday) at 6-15 p.m. (S.T.)

BOMBAY ZIONIST ASSOCIATION.

Dr. Alexander Goldstein, the noted Zionist leader, will deliver a public lecture on "Zionist Work in Palestine" at the Magen David Synagogue, Byculla, on Wednesday (the 9th inst.) at 7 p.m., instead of Tuesday, as previously intimated.

KEREN HAYESOD.

A meeting of the Bene-Israel subscribers and donors to the above fund will be held in the Hall of the Israelite Brotherhood, 2nd Peerkhun Street, Byculla, to-day (Tuesday) at 6 p.m. for the purpose of appointing an executive Committee. Dr. Alexander Goldstein will address the meeting.

ENGLISH MAILS.

The outward P and O Mail Steamer "Rawalpindi" with the Mails from London of 27th ultimo arrived at Aden at 11-30 a.m. on the 6th inst. and left there at 6 p.m. the same day. In ordinary course she should arrive in Bombay at 6 p.m. on Friday, the 11th inst.

D. T. MOOLJEE DISPENSARIES.

The total number of patients treated in the Damodar Thackersey Mooljee Charitable Dispensaries, two, at Ripon Road and one, at Kalschowki Road, during the month of January 1927 was 1368 out of whom 1166 were males and 202 were females including children.

LECTURE ON BIJAPUR ARCHITECTURE.

Under the auspices of the Parsa Engineers and Architects' Union a lecture (with lantern slides) on "Bijapur Architecture" will be given by Mr. Tehemurusp D. Kapadia, I.C.E., on Friday (the 11th inst.) at 6-15 p.m. (S.T.) at the Union Rooms 44 York Building, Hornby Road. The lecture open to the general public.

TO-DAY'S MUNICIPAL WIRELESS CONCERT.

A wireless concert of English and Indian Music arranged by the Bombay Municipality will be broadcast by the Bombay Presidency Radio Club on Tuesday, the 8th inst., from 8 p.m. to 8-30 p.m. and can be listened to in the Chhatrapati Shahu Garden where it will be reproduced on the Municipality's Public Hall Amplifier. The Indian programme will be provided by Prof. K. D. Tendulkar of Shri Krishna Vidyalaya, Dadar.

TO THE RESIDENTS OF GIRGAUM.
The Girgaum District Congress Committee's office will be kept open every day (except Thursday) from 7 to 9 a.m. in the morning and 6-30 to 8-30 p.m. in the evening. The membership forms for the current year are ready and can be had during office hours.

IN THE GRIP OF A PATHAN.

RAILWAY OFFICER'S ALLEGED BOND
While Mr. G. Green, assistant controller of stores, G.I.P. Railway, was going home from the De Lisle Road Bridge, in a victoria at about 5 p.m. last Friday he was stopped by a Pathan, who presented what Mr. Green thought a petition. On opening it, he found it to be a bond for Rs. 200 bearing the signature "G. Green". Mr. Green told the Pathan that the signature was not his. The Pathan seemed disinclined to believe the statement, lost his temper at the explanation, and demanded payment of the bond. Told again that Mr. Green had nothing to do with the bond, the Pathan became furious and jumped into the victoria and caught Mr. Green by the wrist, yelling at him to pay up. Mr. Green was very much upset and surprised and ordered the victoria driver to go to the police station. The Pathan got down on the way, but turned up at the De Lisle Road police station shortly after Mr. Green was in.

PATHAN'S STORY.

Giving his name as Shamber Khan Bismilla Khan and his profession as that of a money lender, he produced the bond in dispute and alleged that Mr. G. Green and Dasrath Dagdo, a coolie in the stores department, went to his (Pathan's) place in Mistry Building near the Parcel Post Office and that Mr. Green filled up a Marathi loan form in English and after putting his signature took the money from the Pathan.

Mr. Green stated at the police station that he knew nothing of the loan or the bond and in his opinion it was a case of forgery. He lodged a complaint of attempt at cheating and forgery against the Pathan.

In the course of their enquiries the police came across several other similar bonds for money advanced to Europeans and the name of the stores coolie, Dasrath Dagdo appeared in connection with some of

HONORARY MAGISTRATE ACQUITTED.

PROSECUTION EVIDENCE CONFLICTING.

JUDGMENT IN THACKERS' CASE.

Mr. D. N. D. Khandalawala, the Acting Third Presidency Magistrate, delivered judgment on Monday, in the case in which Mr. Peteh, the Manager of Messrs. Thacker and Co., Ltd., Bookellers of Esplanade Road, had preferred a charge of theft against Dinshah Adarji Wadia, J.P., an Honorary Magistrate of Thana, in respect of diaries, books, etc., worth Rs. 443.

The Magistrate acquitted the accused of the charge laid against him and said in the course of his lengthy judgment that it was admitted that no panache was called when the search of the accused took place. It had also been admitted that the accused had been receiving catalogues since 1924 and that he had bought goods in the past from him. His Worship observed that the statement of Mr. Peteh that the accused had nothing in his hand was false. As a matter of fact he had in his hand the black book, the catalogue and a piece of brown paper when he was brought to the police station. Inspector Bull had admitted that fact. If he had taken them out of his pocket while he was in the taxi, Mr. Peteh who was sitting near him would not have failed to notice it. "Believing that he had a good case Mr. Peteh became overzealous," the Magistrate proceeded "and made statements at random. I believe Mr. Peteh must have been in a state of excitement and he failed to notice what the accused had in his hand."

THE PLACE OF ARREST.

"The point to be considered is with regard to the exact spot where the accused was arrested. In his examination in chief Mr. Peteh says that he arrested the accused as he left the premises. In his cross-examination he says that he arrested him outside the shop. The only other person who has seen the accused being arrested is Vishram and he contradicts Mr. Peteh, for he says that it was at the stationery counter that the arrest took place. The accused also says the same thing and in view of the state of the evidence I am unable to accept Mr. Peteh's statement. I believe that the accused was arrested inside the shop. The reason why Mr. Peteh says he arrested the accused outside is to make his story consistent, for he has admitted that so long as the accused remained inside he could not be charged with theft and as he did not object to the accused pocketing the children's book as well as the diaries, even assuming that all the articles were in the accused's pocket, at the time of his arrest inside the shop then on Mr. Peteh's own admission the accused could not be considered to be a thief, the reason being plain that as long as a man is in the shop there could be nothing to show that he had no intention to pay. If there was money in his pocket, so much the better, for if not it would be open to him to request the salesmen to give him articles on credit, and if that too was refused, the articles could be returned."

Vishram's evidence, in His Worship's opinion, was extremely unsatisfactory.

PROSECUTION'S FAILURE.

Referring to the status of the accused His Worship remarked that it was extremely unlikely that a man in such a position would, in broad daylight and in the midst of a large staff of employees pick up article after article and put it in his pocket with a view to commit theft. "It is not as if he slipped in a book or two, but it is absurd to say that all 13 articles were slipped in and it is not suggested either by Mr. Peteh or Vishram that they have seen the accused slip in all the articles. There was the list with him of what he desired to purchase, and if he were really a thief it must be said that it was pre-arranged. No such presumption could be drawn against him. If two constructions are possible, it is the duty of the court to accept the one most favourable to the accused. I hold that the prosecution has failed to prove that the accused put all the 13 articles in his pocket and walked out of the shop without paying for them. Accordingly I order him to be acquitted."

MIDNIGHT ROBBERY.

A SION SENSATION.

All Sion is agog with excitement over an incident which took place on 4th inst. A Clerk, P. W. Vapal, resident of Sion was rudely awakened from sleep in the early hours of the morning of the 4th inst. and witnessed a big Parseshi looking man brandishing a stick above him. His women-folk were screaming aloud and two other intruders were casing them of their ornaments. Property worth Rs. 250 was carried away by these dacoits. It is believed that they absconded in a motor car which was witnessed by a constable of the excise department on the main road for Sion to Kurla. The incident has been telephoned to the Bandra and Thana police who are keeping a sharp look-out. The car is described as a yellow one.

The coolie is absconding.

The signature "G. Green" on the bonds is written in a slaty manner but in his complaint Mr. Green's writing appears steady and well-set.

The police are making further inquiries.

ASTROLOGICAL FORECAST

FOR

FEBRUARY

COTTON, SILVER AND SHARES.

(By An Astrologer.)

In the current month the conjunction of Jupiter and Venus which took place in the Min Rashi on the 5th cannot be lost sight of as the lunation of New Moon on 3rd also starts with the happy conjunction of Venus and Jupiter. The bad aspects, however, will be noticeable immediately in the second week since Saturn makes square with Venus and Jupiter, and in the middle of the month the Sun is in square with Mars. But our opinion is that markets may depress; they have also a helping hand at the end of the month by the setting of Jupiter on the 28th.

So, on the whole, whether the review is to be meant for the markets or for the people the prospects are that it will not turn out to be so bad or black as others imagine. We put before the public for their information the following dates of bad and good times:

Changing of Mercury in Min on the 10th and its conjunction and transitory passing over the month's New Moon and Conjunction with Jupiter on the 13th—Very Good. If there are any planets in the above period producing disastrous effects, I come across only one—and that is Mars, in square with Neptune on the 13th and when the real bad time commences. They, however, do last till 17th and again from 20th to 29th. By this period if any one is ranged in business he must not be frightened over the next month's Mars and Saturn opposition, but he could get a relief on the 7th March on which date he must beware and take note that if he further indulges in heavy speculation he would be "done up," as we find no planets coming to his rescue and producing good results.

Now we turn to the planetary positions and how they could be applied in the dealings in the markets.

COTTON.

It must be noted that the 7th gives us top rate for cotton and then a drop till 18th, and a rise till the 7th of March.

It is useless to frighten the public that the New York will be 11-96 and the local market at 225. Have we not seen the New York at 11-96 when in Bombay we could only go up to 245? Then it is not simply planets which are to be taken into consideration, but the persons giving such ideas, must first obtain knowledge of the markets, as to its possibilities on the strength of the very high transactions already done, and

the possibilities of tendering cotton, the local crop and its quality.

I am very strongly of opinion that how ever low market may go which was anticipated only from 7th to 18th, I would always recommend purchases, since this year's crop conditions for the local market are very poor, and the quality being the best it will hardly be tendered in the markets. In general, before the close of April-May settlement, I generally anticipate a very good rise and strongly recommend the "Chronicle" readers to always buy the local cotton in weak markets and not to remain short, as we shall shortly be ignoring the futures of New York and rule our own settlements.

SHARES.

The only factor at present worth dealing in is Tata's Steel Ordinary and Deferred Shares. Our idea is that from the 8th February after the Settlement is over (which has for the present checked its rise) we look for a good rise and would recommend all nervous holders to take profits on the 18th of this month. The tendency of the market may remain firm for a week hence, but I would strongly recommend short sales for the second month on the 24th of February. We anticipate the Deferreds at 245, and ordinary's round 79.

Mills Shares are not worth dealing in. Although they will fluctuate they will not be sacked. Short sales cannot be effected, and I shall later state when to buy.

The Miscellaneous sections, specially the Petrols, Bombay Burmah, Scindia, and Cements where cash business is done, will be active and in best demand till the 26th of the month.

SILVER.

Wild fluctuations would occur mostly showing an upwards trend and one will not be surprised if the prices touch Rs. 67 to Rs. 69-1, however, caution the public to watch the course from 21/2 when I shall be able to further enlighten the readers on this point.

In conclusion, I can offer my services for regular guide if I am satisfied, first, with the man's horoscope that I have drawn for him, as I do not like to ruin the public by false predictions published so as to draw a regular client—since it is after 15 years, working in this line I shall give the best advice, to the readers of the "Chronicle" according to my ability and experience.

BOMBAY COUNCIL PRESIDENTSHIP.

NO CANDIDATE PUT UP.

COUNCIL NATIONALISTS' DECISION.

The Bombay Council Nationalists made another effort at deciding the outstanding questions they were faced with, at a meeting of their party held at China Bazar, Girgaum Back Road on Monday evening. Messrs. Dadubhai Desai, H. B. Shivdasani, W. S. Mukadam, Jairamdas Dawlatram, Phirodia, F. G. Ginnwalla, B. T. Desai, Jivabhai, H. J. Amin and Bhimbhai Naik were present. Mr. Shivdasani presided.

Although the report supplied to the Press shows that the party had done nothing beyond deciding not to run a candidate for the Bombay Council speakerships and appointing a Committee of five members to prepare the programme of work to be done by the party and the lines on which effective opposition to the Government should be organised a lot of discussion seems to have taken place at the meeting which lasted over two hours and a half. Mr. Nariman, the provisional leader of the Swarajists, was again conspicuous by his absence. Although the Swarajists to have as a body joined the Council Nationalists, their leader, Mr. Nariman, has never attended any of the meetings that party has held.

It is reliably learnt that although a few members present at the meeting, including some Swarajists, were eager to adopt Mr. Dadubhai Desai as their candidate for Presidency of the Council, Messrs. Mukadam and Amin put up a hard fight against the idea on the ground that the candidate for Presidency must be above parties and they were after a heated debate successful in moving the party to adopt a resolution declaring that the party did not want to put up any candidate. The question of nominating office-bearers the Leader and the Whip were again shelved till February 19 when the party would in all probability meet again.

It appears that an attempt was made to ask the party to confirm the letter written by Mr. Dadubhai Desai to the Hon. Mr. H. D. Desai ousting him from the party but after an exchange of hot words among some of the present, the matter was held over "sine die".

FATAL FALL FROM STAIRCASE

DR. N. M. BODAS DEAD.

BOMBAY'S X-RAY SPECIALIST.

Dr. Narayan Mahadeo Bodas, the famous X-Ray Specialist of Bombay, expired on Monday morning at 1 a.m. at the Charkar Clinic Hospital, Queen's Road.

Dr. Bodas went with Dr. Khote to the Charkar Clinic Hospital to see Dr. Naidu at about 7 p.m. on Saturday. At about 1 a.m., the same night, both of them were returning when Dr. Bodas missed his step while getting down the staircase and fell down about 6 steps. As he became dazed, Dr. Khote carried him up to the Charkar Clinic Hospital at once and sent for Dr. Shirwalkar, who, on arrival kept Dr. Bodas under his observation. He found that the deceased was suffering from concussion of the brain. He had a wound near the angle of his right jaw. At about 7.30 p.m. on Sunday, Dr. Bodas began to develop signs showing haemorrhage of the brain. Dr. Shirwalkar, therefore, decided on an operation. The base of the skull of the deceased was fractured. Dr. Shirwalkar with the assistance of Dr. Cooper and Dr. Gadgil performed the necessary operation in the presence of the brother of the deceased. But Dr. Bodas expired at 1 a.m.

The City Coroner held an inquest on Monday morning when the jury recorded a verdict of death by fracture of the base of the skull and ribcage haemorrhage in consequence of an accidental fall.

DAYLIGHT ROBBERY.

In broad day light, a Christian woman, Annie Pinto was robbed of property valued at Rs. 700. The woman left on Saturday morning, chaining her door in front. Her brother, who was about the premises noticed a man, climbing into the room, unchaining the door and walking off with property. An alarm was raised but the man made good his escape. The trunk-box was broken open and ornaments and cash worth Rs. 700 were found missing. The incident is significant as the locality is well-guarded and is in the neighbourhood of the Mazgaon Police Court. The Byculla Police are making enquiries.

INSANITATION IN SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

DISCUSSION IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

COMMISSIONER PLEADS PAUCITY OF FUNDS.

An adjourned meeting of the Bombay Municipal Corporation was held on Monday Mr. R. M. Chitambar presiding. The Corporation approved of the ad-interim report of the Committee on budget estimates for 1927-28 and also agreed to a proposition of Mr. D. G. Khairaz requesting the Commissioner to take immediate steps to remove the insanitary condition of the Pandra Slaughter Houses.

The first ad-interim report of the Committee of the whole house appointed to consider the expenditure side of the budget estimates for 1927-28 recommended to the Corporation for the adoption of the following budget provisions without any modification:

General supervision, collection of review, etc. Rs. 16,11,201. Debt (General) Rs. 53,70,899. Water Works Rs. 69,89,637. Education primary Municipal institutions Rs. 23,70,057.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND SANITATION.

Mr. Dostmohamed G. Khairaz, moved, That the Corporation most strongly condemn the attitude of the Municipal authorities responsible for the keeping of the Pandra Slaughter Houses and request the Commissioner to take immediate steps to have the Pandra Slaughter Houses sanitariously cleaned and see that they do not lapse again into their present state of insanitation. The Corporation further request the Commissioner to inquire thoroughly as to why the insanitary condition of the Slaughter Houses was allowed to prevail and issue strict orders that those immediately responsible for the satisfactory maintenance of the Slaughter Houses will be severely dealt with if such insanitary conditions are allowed to continue.

The Municipal Commissioner pleaded paucity of funds to effect improvement in the Slaughter Houses which he said would cost at least Rs. 2 lakhs.

Mr. J. B. Bomen-Beltrani moved an amendment to refer the matter to the Market Committee to report as to what temporary measures should be adopted to put an end to the insanitary state of things that existed at the Pandra Slaughter House and what would be the cost of the same, and what would be the cost of the same.

Dr. S. S. Badiwalla suggested to alter the resolution to draw the attention of the Municipal Commissioner to the insanitary condition of the Slaughter Houses and that he be requested to take immediate steps to remove the same.

Mr. Khairaz agreed to latter the proposition accordingly.

The question being put to the vote the amendment was agreed to as a substantive proposition.

The Corporation then adjourned into a Committee to further consider the budget estimates for 1927-28.

"COLOSSAL WASTE."

To The Editor of "The Chronicle".
Sir,—The attention of the Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, has been drawn to certain misstatements in your issue of to-day's date regarding the administration of the Bombay Port Trust Railway.

Referring to the letter which you publish from a correspondent who signs himself "A Representative, British Importing Firm" and claims "full knowledge of the administration of the Port Trust for the last 25 years," you make the following comments in your sub-article headed "Colossal Waste":

"The letter we publish elsewhere shows how a Manager on Rs. 2,500 a month with four deputy managers on Rs. 1,500 a month and a contingent of nine assistant managers on Rs. 800 a month with numerous subordinates drawing Rs. 250 a month and over are necessary to run a railway six miles long."

The true facts are that the Bombay Port Trust Railway, which comprises 110 miles of main lines, yards and sidings, and which handles approximately 50 per cent. of the entire terminal goods traffic of Bombay, is controlled by a Manager, 2 Deputies and 3 Assistant Managers (one of the latter being temporarily supernumerary in the Deputy Manager's grade) and 1 Assistant Traffic Superintendent, a total of 7 officers against 14 as alleged by your correspondent.

The letter referred to contains a number of other misstatements and a purely imaginary conversation, but the above discrepancies are sufficient to show the value of your correspondent's information.—Yours, etc.,

Acting Secretary, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay, February 7.

FOREST SURVEY BY AEROPLANE.

CHITTAGONG, Feb. 5.

Forest Survey by aeroplane has commenced in Cox's Bazar Sub-Division of the Chittagong District. The hilly ranges off Cox's Bazar are being topographically surveyed. The machine flies every morning to Cox's Bazar from Guptakali near the mouth of the river Koranfali near the town of Chittagong, and returns in the evening, a distance of about 80 miles.—A. P.

LATEST NEWS.

LAHORE, Feb. 7.
News has reached here of a fatal motor accident between Rawalpindi and Lahore in which Pandit Rajindra Kishan Kaul, eldest son of Raja Sir Daya Kishan Kaul, received serious injuries to his skull and died almost immediately and his wife also received serious injuries. The deceased was coming with his wife from Kashmir but near Kharian the car was overturned owing to the road being slippery. The deceased had received training in forestry and match industry in Germany and other countries and was running match factories at Shalhra and in Kashmir.—A. P.

MADRAS, Feb. 7.
Mr. Travers Phillips, Commissioner of Police, Madras, has left on a tour to Bombay and Calcutta with a view to studying the various methods connected with the administration of police in those two cities where crime is being investigated by a separate department of police force and applying those methods to Madras, where, it is proposed, to place the investigation of crime under the charge of a Deputy Commissioner and the administration in the hands of another Deputy Commissioner.—A. P.

LONDON, Feb. 7.
There is no change in the situation in China and there is no indication of immediate threats to Shanghai. The British Government fully sympathizes with the idea behind the United States' suggestion regarding Shanghai tabled on 5th February which is regarded as showing considerable co-ordination of view with the British policy, namely, to ensure the safety of foreigners at Shanghai.—Reuter.

LONDON, Feb. 7.
Washington.—Mr. Kellogg's note with regard to Shanghai and his expression of the United States' willingness to negotiate regarding future status of settlement is interpreted in diplomatic circles here to mean eventual abolition of the international character of the settlement. It is significant that Mr. Kellogg speaks on behalf of all foreigners on the international settlement and it is known that the proposal, although it was made independently, was communicated to Ambassadors of interested powers in advance.—Reuter.

LATEST COTTON QUOTATIONS.

(Through Cotton Telegraphic Information Service, 375, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay)

MAY NEW YORK.

February 7.
Previous Closing Rate 14.06
To-day's Opening Rate 14.01
Difference -05
To-day's Closing Rate 14.06
Difference plus 13

LIVERPOOL.

February 7.
Previous Closing Rate 7.41
Difference plus 06
To-day's Opening Rate 7.47
To-day's Closing Rate 7.38
Difference -03

Sewri Rs. 272-0-0
Kandy " 279-4-0

LONDON SILVER MARKET.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

London, Feb. 7.
Silver Ready 27-7-0
Difference 0-2-0 lower
Silver Forward 27-3-0
Difference 0-3-0 lower
Tone of market—Quiet

COTTON HIGHER ACCOUNT SPECULATIVE.

SCARCITY OF OFFERINGS.

Messrs. Decharay Nagesh, Cotton Brokers, have to-day received the following cable from their New York friends:—
"Cotton looks higher account speculative and trade buying and scarcity of offerings."

NATURE ANGRY WITH CRICKET

CEYLONESE PLAY IN DECEPTIVE LIGHT.

M. C. C. DECLARED FOR 431

COLOMBO, Feb. 7.
As on Saturday rain interfered with the play in the M. C. C.'s match against All Ceylon. Continuing their innings the M. C. C. batted till 2-45 and declared with 431 for eight wickets. Wyatt made his fifth century of the tour and Parsons 64 and Asif 65 made the next best scores. The Ceylonese began their innings in deceptive light and lost two wickets for two runs and when owing to heavy rain stumps were drawn at 3-45 they had made 48 runs for three wickets.—A. P.

GANDHIJI AT AMRAOTI.

AMRAOTI, Feb. 7.
Gandhiji arrived here on Sunday morning along with Seth Jammalal Bajaj. He was given a Municipal address and the people gave him a purse of Rs. 3,000 for the Dasha-bandhu Fund. Replying to the address Gandhiji urged that khaddar should be used all round.
Mr. R. M. Deshmukh, Minister, Local Self Government, C. P. has contributed Rs. 500 to the Dasha-bandhu Fund for which Gandhiji is touring the country.—Free Press.

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2. MERCANTILE LAW (1925): 4th Edition. It deals with the complete Mercantile Law in simple language with references and carefully prepared index Rs. 9.
3. HIGHER ACCOUNTING (1916): A book for Book-keepers, Accountants, Auditors, Accountancy Students and Business-men, Rs. 6.
4. BUSINESS ORGANIZATION (2nd Edition), 1922, dealing with problems of organization and promotion of companies Systems in use in large business offices. Stock exchange practices, Labour efficiency and organisation, Secretarial Work, and Scientific advertising, Rs. 7-8.
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The Bombay Chronicle.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1927.

POSITION OF SILVER.

While dissenting with Government that undue emphasis has been laid on the question of the ratio and emphasising the need for securing the lower ratio, for the good of the producer both in industry and in agriculture, we desire to refer to an issue of great importance, viz., the recognition that there is unanimity with regard to silver ceasing to be a standard or a vehicle of the expression of value. In view of this it becomes necessary to examine the effects of demonetisation of silver not only in various other countries in the world but in India. One such effect, which has been pointed out, is that the savings of the people, which are held in silver, will go down in value. This blow to their savings is

already not inconsiderable and may be accentuated further, with the result that their credit, i.e., their power of raising the wherewithal to tide over any temporary difficulties, will be seriously impaired. There is no reliable estimate with regard to the "hoards" of silver which are in India and for our readers it must be significant that the Royal Commission on Currency has not made any recommendations as to how such an eventuality shall be met. We think the time has come for the imposition of a duty on a scale which will really check further heavy importation of silver so as to break the link finally and to foil the designs of the silver interests of America against the attempts of India to seek an honest gold standard with a gold currency.

There is not the slightest doubt that such a measure is now called for in order that the blow may fall lightly on those who are least able to bear it and we trust that in the consideration of this problem, no prejudices will weigh, particularly because so long as silver was set on a pedestal with gold as the precious metal of commerce and the means of settling international balances, there was and rightly a demand for complete free trade. But the position, which silver is going to assume in future, is not in any way different from the position of iron, copper, nickel or any other metal, and, unlike these, it will be difficult to establish that silver has any important place in the productive machinery of the country. On these grounds alone a duty will be justifiable, but it is necessary in future to prevent the hard-earned savings of the people from being continually drawn away in the channels of the past into the hands of foreign producers. It is well-known that the production of silver is a by-product in the production of lead and other metals and will, therefore, continue, and imagination fails in putting a limit to the fall of the world prices of silver which may be seen in the next decade. Under these conditions since the total holdings of silver in India in the hands of the people are so considerable, such a measure would be fully justified. Nor will the usual argument, which is the favourite hobby of those in authority when they desire to foil a public demand, that the consumer will be penalised, hold good in the case of silver as the consumer will certainly continue to get his future supplies in spite of the duty at a price which will compare not unfavourably with the average price that has been ruling during the last two or three years. There will be an incidental advantage to the taxpayer in the sense that the redundant stock of silver in the hands of Government, which will otherwise tend further to destroy the value of the white metal, will also be saved from a drastic process of devaluation and that the gold resources, which it is intended to build up by the conversion of this silver, will to that extent be greater and will also be accumulated quicker. In order to reach this very desirable result, it would be necessary to secure a definite expression of public opinion on the subject and we invite the various Chambers of Commerce and other bodies to say what they think on this topic, which is outside the controversy that has been hitherto raised.

We have thought it desirable to initiate a discussion on this topic in our columns, because even when the original ground disappears, public predilections die hard and because narrow trade interests in the city of Bombay, which can claim to be the biggest bullion market on this side of Suez Canal, may express an opposition to restrictions on the importation of silver in the form of a duty fearing some immediate reaction on the prices and the trend of speculative dealings. We trust, however, that the more permanent good of the poor, which is involved in some sort of check to the unrestricted import of silver from abroad in India, will have a greater weight than any petty objections dictated through ignorance or interest. There is no justification whatsoever for any serious difference of opinion between Indian publicists on the questions of preventing India's resources being frittered away in the importation of alien silver, but there is room for difference of opinion as to the scale on which this duty should be levied. The scale, which was on the statute book at one time, was four annas an ounce and until serious reasons are alleged to the contrary, there is just ground for reimposing this customs duty. We may mention that apart from those who hold the hoards individually and the taxpayer with the large amount of redundant rupees who will be thus protected, certain sections in India engaged in producing silver and lead will also get an impetus, whereas a very careful search has not disclosed to us any extensive or important class of men who will suffer a disadvantage. India levies a revenue duty on all importations and it is for those who urge exemption from this duty in the case of silver, to prove their case. We shall, therefore, anxiously look for any who hold that such a duty ought not to be imposed and, if so, for a statement of the grounds on which they base their opinion.

BREACH OF FAITH.

Government have committed a double breach of faith by finally deciding to postpone the discussion of the Currency Bill till 7th March after the presentation of the new Budget. When Sir Basil Blackett moved his motion for the circulation of the Reserve Bank Bill, Sir Purshotamdas, Mr. Jinnah and Mr. Jamnadas Mehta told him plainly what they thought of the shameful manoeuvre by which the Assembly would be faced with a "fait accompli" with respect to the ratio and would be compelled to

agree to the withdrawal of some concessions regarding the taxes if the rate of exchange was reduced to 16d. Yet the Finance Member had then thought it fit to assume the mask of having some deference towards the verdict of the Assembly by pretending to have obtained in advance the assent of at least some members to his unworthy stratagem. But when leaders of all the parties unanimously opposed the false procedure sought to be adopted by the Government, he was himself compelled to confess his mistake about the sense of the House and Sir Alexander Muddiman saved his face by promising to give the very best consideration to the members' views. But the hope of reconsideration—which indeed has prevented members from hastily moving an adjournment motion with a view to expedite the consideration of this vital question—has now proved a snare and a delusion. For the House Member has had the effrontery to make a long-winded statement informing the country that Government have after all chosen to remain adamant in their decision and impervious to the united demand of all the popular parties in the Assembly. He has thus heaped an insult upon the people and their representatives and coming as it does on the top of many others that have been inflicted in such grave matters as the despatch of Indian troops to China and the refusal to release the Bengal detainees, it is bound to spur the country to frame a new policy of dynamic action.

We need not go at any length into the reasoning adopted by the Home Member, who had evidently adopted stereotyped language more with a view to conceal than to express the real desire and intentions of Government. He says: "No more and no less difficultly would be involved in readjusting the Budget figures and proposals to 1s. 4d. if a decision in favour of that ratio were taken after 28th February than if it were taken earlier." If that is so, why should not Government respect the wishes of the Central Legislature by taking its verdict as early as possible? The paltry reason that Sir Alexander could put up was that the discussion of the Ratio just at present would be vitiated by "the absence of facts and figures which are known only to Government." Now while the actual facts of the Budget are of course the monopoly of Government to-day, the effect of the change in the ratio can be easily calculated by all intelligent persons roughly on the basis of the last year's budget. What, however, cannot possibly be guessed by outsiders is the exact nature of the tenting concessions, provincial and general, that Government have carefully designed to make on condition that their net ratio is duly adopted. But this game is already played out and cannot deceive most of the parties who have already pledged themselves to the 16d. ratio. We have no doubt that the Assembly will, by a thumping majority, ask the Government to bring up the Ratio Bill before the end of this month. Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyengar moves his adjournment motion in the House. But of course, Government will continue unchecked on their ruinous course. And if they finally drop the last vestige of constitutionalism by passing their Ratio Bill in the teeth of bitter opposition of the Assembly, they will place the coping-stone on the monument of hardened autocracy that they have built up in this session and will leave no alternative to the people but to accept the challenge and concentrate more vigorously than they have done so far on the vast work of organising the masses for effective direct action.

A CRYING GRIEVANCE.

The resolutions which the Nationalist Party in the Assembly has decided to move in regard to the constitution of the Railway Board, refer to a just and crying grievance which remains unattended to in spite of repeated remonstrances on the part of the people's representatives in the legislature. The Nationalist Party demands a change in the constitution of the Railway Board so as to secure the appointment of two Indian members upon it and it also demands a statutory provision that the number of the Indian members on that Board shall never be less than two. On the question of the composition of the Railway Board public opinion has repeatedly been flouted. When a vacancy had occurred some time back on the Board, it was expected that an Indian would be appointed to it, but public expectations were again disappointed. The usual argument that Indians of the requisite technical qualifications and experience are not available can no longer hold water because, as the Government of India are very well aware, such Indians are available but are not selected purely owing to the real object of keeping the Board a close preserve for Europeans. The Nationalist Party also wants the Assembly to recommend to the Governor-General-in-Council to appoint a committee with a non-official majority to enquire into the working and the constitution of the Railway Board, and the results of the separation of Railway Finance from General Finance and suggest modifications. We hope this resolution will have the united support of all non-official elements in the Assembly as the Railway Board has always shown a tendency to be a law unto itself, remaining totally impervious to public criticism of its methods of administration. As regards the separation of the Railway Budget from the General one the hope that supporters of the bifurcation held out regarding the advantage of closer scrutiny of both by the legislature, has proved illusory. The Railway Board has been placed, on this contrary in a much more advantageous position than when the railway items formed part of the General Budget.

THE GOLD BULLION STANDARD.

UNACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE.

(BY PROF. G. N. JOSHI.)

We are told that the gold bullion standard is practically the present English system and hence we are exhorted to accept it with enthusiasm. It should be clearly borne in mind that England adopted her present system—it is not a gold bullion standard—out of sheer necessity and not out of conviction in its superiority. This fact is borne out by official utterances. Sir Basil says, "Under it (the gold bullion standard) the one and only standard of value in India will be gold as it is in England." Now under the gold bullion standard all that is provided is that all legal media of exchange can be converted into gold in a definite quantity. This is all. Is a gold unit accepted as a standard unit? In England there is the sovereign. Here the sovereign is to be demonstrated. Is a gold bar of 400 ounces our monetary unit in whose terms the values of all the commodities are to be measured?

ENCOURAGEMENT TO HOARDING.

Under the gold bullion standard it is assumed that the sole function of sound money is to serve only as a medium of exchange. But what about its serving as a store of value? In what forms will Indians put their savings under the gold bullion standard? It may be argued that they can place them with the banks or invest them in Cash Certificates. But to expect this from all classes of people at present is to ignore the realities. The only form in which majority of Indians will keep their savings will be gold—gold bars and not gold coins—because there are to be no coins. If there are coins, they can use them whenever occasion arises, but if they are in the form of a bar they will not use them. They will prefer borrowing money to parting with the bar. Perhaps no better method than the gold bullion standard can be devised to encourage hoarding habits!

METALLIC CURRENCY INDISPENSABLE

Under the gold bullion standard in its ultimate form the whole currency is to consist of notes and rupees are to be withdrawn. Firstly, it is not at all advisable to withdraw all the rupees, and it is not even necessary to make notes inconvenient to convert into rupees. The authority may continue to convert notes into rupees for the sake of convenience so long as the stock of rupees is adequate. It is provided that new notes of large denominations will be legally convertible into notes of small denominations and not into coins. This means that our currency organisation is to dispense with the metallic form of currency.

STEEL PROTECTION OR IMPERIAL PREFERENCE.

(BY VITHALDAS K. BHUTA.)

While Indian politicians have been talking about the dangers of "Imperial Preference" to India, the principle has been accepted by an anti-Congress majority of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Steel Protection Bill.

We have a powerful 'apologist' of that policy in the local "Times", who snubs the Indian politicians, with gross ignorance of economic questions. Mr. M. R. Jayakar has been taken to task by the old dame of Bori-Bunder, for opposing the Bill giving a so-called "Protection" to the Steel Industry. In her grand-dame fashion the old woman says: "The very thought of Imperial Preference is anathema to our extremist politicians. They may not and some of them it is very obvious do not—understand the economic issues involved, but the thought of India adopting Imperial Preference drives them into frenzy."

INSULTING INDIAN INTELLIGENCE.

It has been well said, that when arguments are exhausted people do resort to abuse and bullying. "The Times of India" has shown its deep economic knowledge by saying that favouring British steel and penalising imports of other countries, is not "Imperial Preference". Will it please explain, what sort of Preference is that? If it is not "Imperial Preference", is it British Preference? And, will it explain, how does it differ from "Imperial Preference"? The long lecture about British standard steel would not carry weight with men, who know the real conditions. Does it dare to say that standard steel is not produced in any country, excepting British? Does not Belgium produce standard steel, and that too 15 to 20 per cent. cheaper than Britain? By dubbing all, who oppose "Imperial Preference", as "extremists", it is doing injustice to the intelligence of the Indian people. When Britain, which is a rich country, wants cheap continental steel, when Britain does not want higher tariffs against steel imports, why should India be asked, in the guise of "Protection" to the Indian industry, to levy higher tariffs against foreign steel imports? Are the poor people of India to be penalised, in order that the British manufacturers may fill their pockets safely, by dumping their steel

in one form or other. This may be an ideal form of currency for an ideal state. But India is still an illiterate and backward country. Even the advanced countries in the West have not been yet able to dispense with the metallic portion of currency in one form or another. If standard gold coins are not largely in circulation at least token subsidiary coins are in circulation. The currency system of a country is by the very nature of the needs of a community, of a heterogeneous character and as yet we have not reached a stage when we can dispense with the metallic portion of a currency organisation though it is highly desirable. It is strange that the Commission and Sir Basil while recognising the illiteracy of the people and the backward state of our banking organisation should have thought of adopting a device which is the last word in the evolution of a monetary system. Is India so much advanced as to adopt a measure which the admittedly civilized West dares not think of adopting? The report of the Commission is a piece of cogent academic reasoning. Nobody doubts this, but we have to deal with Indian conditions. If India can get on with a currency system entirely consisting of paper money, surely she is fit for any reform. Well, if we are taken as so much advanced in such technical and important matters, we should not be questioned as regards our fitness in other matters. The proposal of issuing one rupee inconvertible notes is too absurd for serious consideration.

FITTERING AWAY GOLD RESOURCES.

The gold bullion standard provides no method to tap the existing gold resources of India. It perpetuates the location of India's gold reserves in London.

We are seriously told that the gold bullion standard is the quickest way to an effective gold standard. There is no substance in this statement, because it is negated by the conduct of the Government. The only difficulty in introducing an effective gold standard is the alleged inadequacy of our gold reserves, hence the only way in which that difficulty can be met is to increase the gold reserves, but the Government instead of increasing or strengthening the gold reserves is frittering them away thus making the alleged difficulties real.

Again if this difficulty is to be met, there should be a clear provision that for some years till our gold reserves are adequately strengthened all notes to be issued henceforth should be fully covered with gold.

One admires the device by which gold as

(Continued on page 9.)

Notes of the Day.

A Disastrous Proposal.

A very severe rebuke has been administered to the busy-bodies in Britain who think that the time has come now to teach Soviet Russia a lesson for her alleged incitement of the Chinese Nationalists to make matters hot for the British shop-keepers in Shanghai and other Chinese ports. Sever the diplomatic and trade relations between Russia and Britain is the cry of the Die-hard Press in Britain. The Anglo-Russian Parliamentary Committee has issued a statement in which it points out the disastrous effects to British trade and British workers if the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement is broken off. Unemployment will increase in England and trade will suffer. The "patriotic" capitalist class so full of resentment against Russia will not after all be prepared to run these risks, and even the extremists in the Baldwin Government will be compelled to realise the folly of listening to the proposal for repudiating the Agreement. Litvinoff's estimate of British bluff is correct.

The Only Solution.

The only way out of the imbroglio in which Britain finds herself in China is for her to see the necessity, as Mr. Lloyd George advises her, to secure again the goodwill of the 400 millions in China with whom, in the former's words, Britain "shares a common quarrel." He recognises that shop-keeping is the main source of British livelihood and "the first condition of prosperity" for shop-keepers "is to shun war." Mr. Lloyd George wants British reinforcements to be concentrated only at Hongkong. If the Baldwin Government realise the wisdom of this advice, particularly the seriousness of Mr. Lloyd George's warning that in 1914 it similar premature movement of troops made negotiations impossible and the Great War was precipitated, there may be a solution yet of England's difficulty in China, and negotiations can be carried with Mr. Chen without pointing a pistol at him all the time.

The Locarno Spirit.

The new Coalition Government of Dr. Marx has managed to secure a vote of confidence from the Reichstag with a comfortable majority in its favour, but the continued existence of that majority depends largely on the attitude of the Economic Party and the Bavarian People's Party to the new Cabinet. These groups want a closer understanding with France so that Germany can have a quiet time for the development of her industries and for the strengthening of Franco-German commercial relations. M. Briand's latest speech makes it possible for the Marx Cabinet to retain the alliance of these parties because the French Foreign Minister made it quite clear by asking the militarists in his own country, "We have fought throughout centuries. Must we begin again periodically every decade?" that his policy stood for the development of the Locarno spirit. The speech was an "appeal to Germany for peace" but it was really an appeal to French Chauvinists to check their activities.

Mind Your Business.

Mr. Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister of Canada, expressed the feeling most dominant in Canadian politics at present when he strongly resented the advice of an outsider like Mr. Bruce as to what Canada should do for the British Commonwealth and told him to mind his own business. Mr. Bruce, the Australian Premier, on his way back home from the labours of the Imperial Conference, sojourned in Canada for a while and made speeches in that country urging the Dominions to contribute more largely to Empire defence. The exhortation was naturally unpalatable to Canadian public opinion which does not want to be dragged in and be ready with men and money whenever in Downing Street, London, they are prey to bellicose intentions. Canada wants to develop her own military and naval resources and treat with England on a basis of equality as a sister nation, and not as a child who has still to grow up.

Still in Leading Strings.

Lord Willingdon in his speech to the Canadian Club, Ottawa, expatiated upon the "loyalty and responsiveness" of the people of India to "just laws." He must have had no time, of course, to refer to the series of unjust laws like Regulation III and the Black Ordinance which disgrace British administration in India. Such a reference would have spoiled the happy picture of lordship must have drawn of the land of "peace, plenty and prosperity"—to quote the language of another "friend of India" Sir William Vincent, during his lecturing tour in America on the Indian problem some time ago—the land which he left with regret after having spent eleven years in it in practising the art of divide and rule. Lord Willingdon sees a vista of years during which India can be kept in leading strings. He told his audience "India will want us to stay with her for many long years," and his lordship did not omit to draw attention to the "mission" of England in India "to help Indians to be masters in their own house." So far that mission, as Indians see it in operation, has only strengthened England's mastery over India.

Mr. Wadia Acquitted.

Mr. Dinshaw Wadia has been honourably acquitted of the charge of theft brought against him by Mr. Petch, Manager of Messrs. Thacker and Company. In acquitting Mr. Wadia, the Third Presidency Magistrate ably answered the prosecution evidence and Mr. Petch hardly comes out well in his analysis. What the Magistrate mildly characterises as the "over-zealousness" of Mr. Petch was responsible for subjecting an aged and respectable citizen to the strain and ignominy of a criminal prosecution for theft. The Police authorities seem to have made matters worse by the scandalous treatment they meted out to Mr. Wadia against which even the Magistrate had to protest. It is a healthy maxim of law that a man is to be deemed innocent until he is proved to be guilty. The treatment that is accorded to under-trial prisoners in Police custody, is a flagrant violation of this maxim. The enormity of the scandal has been brought into relief by the revelations made in the present case and we trust now that public attention has been directed towards it, effective measures will be taken both by the Executive and the Legislature to see that no under-trial prisoner, whether poor or rich, is treated with undue severity.

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RATIO BILL AFTER BUDGET.

HOME MEMBER'S STATEMENT.

REASONS FOR EARLY PRESENTATION OF BUDGET.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION ON RATIO BILL.

It is definitely known that there will be an adjournment motion in the Assembly, today, to raise the question of Government's delay in bringing up Currency Bill. The Home Member announced on Monday the Government's decision to move the consideration of the Currency Bill relating to the Exchange Ratio on March 7th, as the forthcoming Budget had already been framed on the 1/6 basis, and the consideration of the Bill before or after the Budget could not affect it.

The Home Member pointed out that the reason which has actuated the Government to move the Exchange Ratio Bill after the Budget is that if the Budget was discussed first the House will have full knowledge of the bearing upon finances of the country and of the decision they are called on to take.

ANOTHER CAMPAIGN OF "WALK-OUTS"?

(From Our Special Representative.)
NEW DELHI, February 7.

Last night, the Congress Party of the Assembly met at Western Hostel and arrived at some important decisions. Nothing definite about them is known, because it appears that all the members present there, gave a solemn undertaking that the entire proceedings would be kept quite confidential. No one therefore, would even utter a word about what happened; but curiously enough, some of us knew what had transpired. We knew that the Congress Party wanted to move an adjournment motion of the House with reference to the Currency legislation coming after the Budget has been presented. But when the House met, no adjournment motion was brought in. This is how decisions are being realised. It appears that the Congress Party intends to move everyday, when there is official business, an adjournment motion with reference to the Bengal detenus. Of course, the President will not be allowing them. But there is nothing to prevent them from repeating "their" adjournment motion. This is the latest form of Satyagraha which the Congress Party will adopt.

WALK-OUT AGAIN?

Also it is whispered that after a few weeks, the Congress Party will launch on a new envisagement of walk-outs. It is, of course, expected that there will be no sort of "insouciance" in this latest effort of the Swarajists' Parliamentary obstruction. Though Pandit Motilalji might not succeed in giving the "Government a really hard time" of it, he will certainly contribute for making the session very lively. That is all of the would be and let me now turn to what is happening.

MYSTERY OF ADJOURNMENTS.

When the House met this morning, every one was aware of an impending adjournment motion; but unlike the wrath of Greek furies, the impending pronouncements failed to deliver itself adjournment motion was announced. It is a pity it was not moved, and if it is moved to-morrow, it has just the chance of being given a defeat; because in the Home Member's statement announcing the consideration of the Currency legislation on 7th of March, the same sections of the legislature do not see any reactionary officialdom. It is not being much resented. If the adjournment motion is carried, even then think matters will not be substantially affected. If the adjournment motion is defeated, the implications will be consequently and absolutely in favour of the Government. Therefore it is not wise to risk a defeat of this adjournment motion now. At this stage, it is better to follow the adage "discretion is the better part of valour."

STAGE-MANAGING AGAIN.

To-morrow, is the non-official day and Mr. C. S. Rangaiyer's motion about the statutory commission has been balloted for that day's agenda. I learn that Mr. Rangaiyer, for reasons I mentioned in my last letter, will not move it. In that case Raja Gazanfar Ali cannot bring forth his amendment. Thus matters stand; but Muslim opinion is getting embittered over this stage-managing. They will press for the final issue and most probably, Raja Gazanfar Ali will give notice of a resolution itself, where in his proposed amendment will be reiterated. Then the third act where the tragic height is reached will be enacted. Therefore it looks, as if this session far from being a one-act play, will develop into a full five-act tragedy, with a heart-rending scene at the end of the third act.

THE 18D. RATIO

PROTEST OF PUBLIC BODIES.

NEW DELHI, February 7.
The Legislative Assembly re-assembled this morning with an agenda of official legislative business, and the election of a

panel of eight members, from which six members will be nominated to the Central Advisory Council for Railways. The element of a Select Committee on the Securities Bill, introduction by the Home Member of the Bill to amend the Provincial Insolvency Act, and a motion for the second and third reading of the Bill amending article 182 of schedule 1 of the Limitations Act.

ARRAY OF PUBLIC BODIES AGAINST 18D. RATIO.

Over 40 questions were answered. Replying to Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, the Finance Member laid on the table a statement showing that the following commercial and public bodies have represented to the Government of India against the policy of maintaining the 1s. 6d. ratio: The Indian Produce Association, Calcutta; the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay; Burma-Indian Chamber of Commerce, Rangoon; the Bombay Shroffs' Association; the Gun Merchants' Association, Bombay; the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta; the Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad; the Grain Merchants' Association, Bombay; the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin; the Buyers' and Shippers' Chamber, Karachi; the Millowners' Association, Bombay; the Bombay Cotton Merchants' Association; the Bombay Cotton Brokers' Association; the Southern India Skin and Hide Merchants' Association, Madras; the East India Cotton Association, Bombay; the Madras-Ramnad Chamber of Commerce, Madras; the Indian Currency League, Rangoon; the Mining Federation, Jharia; the Bihar and Orissa Chamber of Commerce, Bankipore; the Gunny Traders' Association, Calcutta; the Jute Dealers' Association, Calcutta; and the Yarn Merchants' Association, Calcutta.—A. P.

RATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 7.

Mr. M. K. Acharya wanted to obtain certain information by way of a question which was disallowed by the President, who said that members should not take advantage of putting supplementary questions from the floor of the House on points which had been disallowed.

Following Mr. Parsons' reply to Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas' question on the Rates Advisory Committee, the latter put supplementary questions and was told that drafting of a revised Act would be taken up at a later stage.

Mr. Chetty asked, "Is it a fact that the President of the Rates Advisory Committee is vegetating without any work to do?" (Laughter.)

Sir Charles Innes: No.

Replying to Kumar Ganganand Sinha, Sir Basil Blackett said that the present practice of indicating the value of silver coins in Persian was an inheritance from the Moghul Emperors. In retaining the Persian script, the Government of India merely carried on the continuity of numismatic tradition. The question of indicating the value in Devanagari script was considered by Government and they decided not to make any change owing to the difficulty of accommodating more inscriptions on the coin.

Mr. Chamanlal: Are Government also following the political traditions of the Moghuls?

Sir Basil Blackett: the answer is in the negative.—(Loud laughter.)

The President then announced that the Railway Budget will be presented to both Houses on the 15th February. General discussion will take place in the Council of States on the 21st February, and in the Assembly on the 22nd, followed by voting on demands for grants by the Assembly on the 24th, 25th and 26th.

The President also announced that he had appointed Mr. K. C. Neogy to the panel of Chairman, vice Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar resigned. (Applause.)

The House afterwards proceeded to elect 8 members of whom six will be nominated

(Continued on next page)

CUTCHI DEPUTATION.

PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE RESULTS.

NEED FOR STRONG PUBLIC OPINION.

(From Our Correspondent.)

CUTCH MANDVI, Feb. 7.

The members of the Cutchi National Conference Deputation gave their impressions of their visit with Maharao to a big public meeting last night. Mr. Surji Vallabhdas was voted to the chair. After narrating some events of the visit, he asked the people to be patient. Mr. L. R. Tairsea advised the State to give opportunity to officials against whom serious allegations are made to go to Court and clear their character or to resign. Mr. Velji Lakhamsi Naps said no definite promises are made by His Highness. Great reforms are needed in the Administration and if they are not made by the State, the rest of the Cutchis would leave the State. Much depends upon the people themselves. They must force the State to introduce reforms. Mr. Mathurles Mstam was an optimist still. He said that it was more honourable to be a constitutional monarch of contended people than to be an autocrat king of spiritless people. Sunawalla urged people not to be illudoned. He asked them to continue the struggle till the last. Members are divided among themselves as regards the result of the visit. Some expect nothing to come out of interview with the Maharao. The Deputation intends to visit several parts of Cutch and educate and create public opinion.

PROCESSIONISTS OBSTRUCTED BY MUSLIMS.

POLICE AVERT TROUBLE AT BARISAL.

BARISAL, Feb. 7.

While the "hijab" of the goddess Saraswati was being carried in procession by a number of students to the village of Sangraish, the Mahomedans of the locality obstructed the processionists and objected to music being played before a mosque, which the latter had to pass by. The students, it is stated, agreed to wait till the prayers were over, but as the Mahomedan demands appeared to be impossible to comply with, the police had to be informed.

The District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police at once proceeded to the spot, and on being informed that no such objection had been raised in previous years, they allowed the procession to pass under police guard.—A. P.

MOSLEM HARTAL.

BARISAL, Feb. 7.

The Mahomedans generally are observing "hartal" today. The Satyagrahi prisoners were allowed to perform the Saraswati Puja yesterday.—A. P.

SARASWATI PUJA PRECAUTIONS.

CALCUTTA, Feb. 7.

The police have taken special precautionary measures in the mill area in connection with to-day's immersion ceremony of Saraswati Puja.—Free Press.

EVACUATION OF OPORTO.

GENERAL BOMBARDMENT IMPENDING

LONDON, Feb. 6.

Lisbon.—The Minister for War has refused to accept the rebels' offer of conditional surrender, and has ordered civilians to evacuate Oporto stating that general bombardment is impending.—Reuter.

REBELS SURRENDER UNCONDITIONALLY.

LONDON, Feb. 7.

Lisbon.—Rebels at Oporto surrendered unconditionally last evening, after intensive bombardment by the Government troops, a column of which is now pursuing several fugitive rebel leaders.—Reuter.

RELIEF OF BATTERIES AT GIBRALTAR

LONDON, Feb. 6.

Gibraltar.—The transport "Neuralla" has disembarked the eighth and twelfth medium batteries of artillery from India, relieving the sixth and eleventh batteries who have embarked for England.—Reuter.

AT-HOME TO MAHARASHTRIANS.

DELHI, Feb. 7.

Mr. Ganoo was "At Home" yesterday to some of the prominent Maharashtrians who are now in Delhi. Mr. G. K. Deodhar, Mr. M. R. Jayakar, Mr. Anay and Mrs. Bhat of the Seva Sadan of Poona were present.—Free Press.

SAKLATVALA LEAVES FOR KARACHI.

CONFERENCE WITH COMMUNIST M. P.

BOMBAY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Shapurji Saklatwala the Communist M. P. passed another busy day in Bombay on Monday and left for Karachi the same night by Gujrat Mail. A fairly large crowd including several known socialists and political workers had gathered at the station to see him off. In the evening on Monday the members of the Council of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee conferred with him, and there was, it appeared a general discussion about the administration of the Committee and the Congress propaganda in the City. Mr. Saklatwala did not seem to have changed his views about khaddar and other items of Mahatma Gandhi's programme which he does not like, even after his interview with Mahatmaji at Nagpur.

"SAK'S" HOMAGE TO DADABHOY.

"In revered and respected memory of India's First National leader, Dadabhai who was as good as he was great.—From Shapurji Saklatwala." In these words, inscribed in a plain sheet of white paper neatly cut with floral borders, Comrade "Sak" paid his respects and homage to Dadabhai Naoroji on Monday evening at the Dadabhai Statue, Esplanade Road. Though the public were quite unaware of the function, quite a crowd collected on the appearance of the Communist M. P., and the Camera men were already there.

"AKLATVALA'S" PROGRAMME IN KARACHI.

PRESENTATION OF A PURSE.

Mr. Saklatwala's programme at Karachi will be as follows—

Wednesday evening Feb. 9, arrival at 5-30 p.m. Municipal Address at 7 p.m.

Thursday.—Public meeting where a purse would be presented to him.

Friday.—Meeting for the Parsis.

Mr. Narayandas Anandji Mehar M. L. C., will meet Mr. Saklatwala at Hyderabad.

"WE ARE YOUR MEN."

HABIBULLAH DEPUTATION REACHES DELHI.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 6.

The Habibullah deputation arrived here this evening and was given a great reception. A large number of distinguished officials and non-officials were present on the platform to welcome them to the headquarters after their strenuous and successful negotiations. Those on the platform included Sir B. N. Mitra, Mr. Bhore, Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, Sir T. Vijayaraghavachari, Syed Reza Ali, Ewhank, Maulvi Mohamed Yakub, Deputy President, Assembly, Mr. Shammukham Chetty and Mr. Gays Prasad Singh of the Congress Party, Pandit Sri Dayanath Kunzru, Mr. Joshi and Mr. Devdhar of the Servants of India Society.

The members of the Deputation warmly shook hands with those present on the platform. Sir Mohamed Habibullah on being greeted by Syed Reza Ali, member of the Preamble deputation which brought about the Round Table Conference, was heard to remark: "We are your men?" Sir Mohamed told an Associated Press representative that he was heartily thankful for this great reception to the delegation at an inconvenient hour. He added that as he had stated at Bombay the delegation did its best and was hopeful of satisfactory results. All the members of the deputation except Sir Pheroze Sethna arrived by the mail.—A. P.

IN MEMORY OF LATE MIKADO

AMNESTY TO 26,000 CONVICTS.

LONDON, Feb. 7.

Tokio.—On the occasion of his father's funeral, the Emperor of Japan has donated one and half million Yen for charity, and has given amnesty to 26,000 convicts. Several death sentences have been commuted to life imprisonment and other sentences have been reduced. The only foreigner attending the funeral is the British Military Attache, representing the British Army, of which the late Emperor was Field-Marshal.—Reuter.

STEEL PROTECTION OR BRITISH PREFERENCE?

SELECT COMMITTEE'S DISSENTING REPORTS

MINORITY PROTEST AGAINST DIFFERENTIATION.

The question of preference to British Steel has brought about a split in the Select Committee on Steel Bills.

While the Majority favour the principle of differentiation in favour of British Steel, the Minority object to it, as it is based not merely on quality of goods, but on the basis of the country of origin.

The Minority fear that the assured protection in Indian market proposed to be given to British Steel will lead to deterioration in quality. According to them, the acceptance of such a principle in any form is not merely unsound, but it may lead to complications in our fiscal policy.

Among the signatories to the Majority Report are Messrs. Jinnah, Joshi and Sarvottam Rao.

PLEA FOR BASIC AND ADDITIONAL DUTY.

The following is the Select Committee's report on the Steel Protection Bill.

To that extent the price of steel bars would be higher under the differential system in Calcutta and in any other area where Indian steel can compete effectively with imported steel. But in the areas which are nearer to the other great ports of India than they are to Jamshedpur and where consequently Indian steel is at a disadvantage it is possible for importers to raise the price of Continental steel to a point a little below the price at which British steel bars could be imported. Under the weighted average system this point is higher by Rs. 9 a ton than it is under the differential system. We believe that if the differential system is adopted the consumer of non-standard steel in any area in which Indian steel cannot effectively compete will not in fact pay a higher price than he would under the weighted average system. But a lower price owing to the reduction of the price of British steel. We considered but were unable to accept a suggestion for the amendment of the Bill so as to include provisions for securing the welfare of the class of steel affected in the case of a reduction of duty. We are of the opinion that the first of these alternatives, which is the scheme adopted in the Bill, is preferable and should be adopted.

PREFERENCE, PREFERRED.

In arriving at this conclusion we have attached great weight to the principle embodied in the preamble to the Bill that the scheme of protection must have due regard to the well-being of the community. We are satisfied that the economic interest of India will be better served by a system of differential rates of duty on British and non-British steel, than by a system which subjects all steel to uniform rates of duty based on weighted average prices of imported steel. A weighted average system duties must be unstable, because any change in the relative level of prices of the British and the Continental steel would lead to change in protections, in which steel made in India is sold in competition with steel from other sources. More serious objection is that the price of both the standard steel and of fabricated steel would be raised unnecessarily owing to high duty on the British steel. As the result of the cost of important public works involving the use of large quantities of steel would be increased the manufacture of machinery in India would be rendered more difficult and industrial development of the country would be retarded. It has been urged that the weighted average system at any rate, diminishes the burden imposed on the users of steel which is not of the British standard. We do not consider that this claim is well founded. Of the classes of steel to which the Bill applies differential rates of the duty, the most important is steel bars and in this case the difference between the duty on the Continental bars proposed in the Bill, and the duty required under the weighted average system, is no more than Rs. 2 a ton.

Among the signatories to the majority report are Messrs. Jinnah, Joshi and Sarvottam Rao.

PREFERENCE NOT BASED ON QUALITY.

MINORITY FOR BASIC AND ADDITIONAL DUTY

NEW DELHI, Feb. 7.

The following is the text of the minority report of the Select Committee on steel Bills:—

"We regret we have not been able to agree with the scheme of protection as embodied in the Bill approved by our colleagues. We are keenly alive to the necessity of giving the adequate protection to the steel industry in India but our differences with our colleagues lie only in methods to be adopted, to achieve this end. Though certain amendments have been

(Continued on page 9.)

CANTONESE MOVE TOWARDS SHANGHAI.

HUGE MOBILISATION DOWN YANGTSE

CHEN'S ASSURANCE TO MR. O'MALLEY

LONDON, Feb. 7. Hankow.—Mr. Chen has informed Mr. O'Malley that the advancing Chinese Nationalist armies will not attempt to take Shanghai forcibly.—Reuter.

"SHANGHAI CAPTURED BY CANTONESE."

COUNTER MOVE AGAINST NORTHERNERS.

LONDON, Feb. 7. Hankow.—Situation here is quiet. Placards and leaflets bear the legend "Shanghai has been captured by Cantonese." It is estimated that 50,000 Cantonese troops will be brought down Yangtse, presumably for the purpose of countering possible drive to Hankow by the northerners. Message from Anking says that two Italian steamers have been commandeered in this connection.—Reuter.

SUN CHUAN-FANG'S STRONG POSITION.

A MANAGE TO SOUTHERNERS?

LONDON, Feb. 6. Shanghai.—More hopeful feeling is prevailing among foreigners and the moderate Chinese. The slackening of tension is probably due to greater confidence in Sun Chuan-fang's military position, which is regarded as fairly strong and the growing conviction that the Southern military position, if not exactly weak, is at least not improving and may at any time be seriously menaced from the North.

That the moderate Nationalists at Shanghai and Hankow are putting up a fight against the extremists is shown by the official calling off a labour demonstration at Hankow. The removal of offensive posters has produced a heartening effect, while the reports that the British troops are likely to be deflected from Shanghai are welcomed.—Reuter.

QUARTERS FOR TROOPS.

LONDON, Feb. 7. Hongkong.—Flourmill, hotel, school and rope factory are among buildings that have been arranged to billet troops which will shortly arrive here.—Reuter.

NO SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS.

MR. MACDONALD EXPLAINS LABOUR ATTITUDE.

LONDON, Feb. 7. Speaking at a crowded meeting at the Albert Hall under the auspices of the National Joint Council of the Labour Movement to demand peace with China, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said that the object of the meeting was to try to settle the Chinese question without either mobs or armies. He emphatically declared that Hankow could not be repeated. If we gave up these old treaties they must be given up by negotiation and agreement, not by force on either side.

He denied that the Labour party by sending their message to Mr. Chen were trying to negotiate with him. They would be going out of their proper sphere if they did so, but they felt that Mr. Chen should be put in possession of Labour's view. Labour's message had made it possible for Mr. Chen to continue the negotiations. "Let us," Mr. MacDonald said, "say to Mr. Chen that if the Hankow document is signed adding at the same time no further security for Shanghai is required, the troops will be turned round and brought home."—Reuter.

ITALY PREPARED TO USE FORCE.

MUSSOLINI'S COOPERATION WITH BRITAIN.

LONDON, Feb. 7. Signed Mussolini's note on China in reply to the British note on the subject was despatched on February 2 after a mature consideration of the situation in the Far East and frequent communications with Sir Austen Chamberlain.

The note agrees on the main lines with the British policy while making secondary reservations in regard to certain points in which British and Italian interests do not exactly coincide. It is understood that the most important part of the note is the statement that Italy is ready to join England even in using force should the situation at Shanghai become critical.

A telegram from Rome declares that it is learned authoritatively that an Italian dreadnought is going to China with 1,500 soldiers to be used as a land force is necessary.—Reuter.

FUTURE OF SHANGHAI SETTLEMENT.

TEXT OF U. S. NOTE.

LONDON, Feb. 7. New York.—The text of the United States Government proposal

to eliminate the international settlement at Shanghai from the zone of war like activities has been issued. It points out the importance of the area to the Chinese, the huge investments of foreigners there and the necessity of maintaining order in the settlement through which passes forty per cent of the trade of China.

After expressing confidence that Chang Tso Lin and Chang Kueishuek will lend their sincere support to the proposals, the note says that the United States Government will be ready to become a party to friendly and orderly negotiations properly instituted and conducted in regard to the future status of the settlement.—Reuter.

DISMISSAL OF SIR F. AGLEN.

RUGBY, Feb. 7. Sir Francis Aglen who, in his absence, was dismissed from his post of Inspector-General of Customs Services, has returned to Peking. The position created by his dismissal was yesterday examined by the diplomatic corps.

The Peking correspondent of the "Observer" says that it was decided to make a strong joint representation to the Peking Government on behalf of the Powers.—B.O.W.

A FRIENDLY PROTEST.

LONDON, Feb. 7. Peking.—Diplomatic corps has handed to the Chinese Foreign Office a memorandum protesting in friendly terms against the dismissal of Sir Francis Aglen.—Reuter.

BRITISH POLICY IN CHINA.

MR. BRIDGEMAN'S APOLOGIA.

RUGBY, Feb. 7. Referring to the Chinese situation in his speech at Oswestry, Mr. Bridgeman (First Lord of the Admiralty) said that the British Government had been charged with aggression yet aggression had come from the Chinese. He said that the British Government had been charged with aggression yet aggression had come from the Chinese. He said that the British Government had been charged with aggression yet aggression had come from the Chinese.

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WAR-WEARIED FRANCE AND GERMANY.

BIANDI'S APPEAL FOR PEACE.

LONDON, Feb. 6. Paris.—In a speech at luncheon in honour of "Politis" who had fought in the East, M. Briand made a notable appeal to Germany for peace. He said that the Germans were a great people. They had their faults and good qualities, but were a formidable nation. He said to her: "We have fought throughout centuries. Do you think we should continue? Must we begin again periodically every decade?"—Reuter.

SIR S. HOARE'S RETURN JOURNEY

LONDON, Feb. 6. The Imperial Airways have completed the final arrangements for the return to London of Sir Samuel Hoare and Lady Hoare although the journey from Cairo to Paris will not be made by air. The Imperial Airways air-liner, piloted by Captain Barnard, will meet the party at Paris whence it is timed to arrive at Croydon at 3.30 on the afternoon of 16th February.—Reuter.

OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL.

Major-General the Hon'ble John and Lady Isabel Cathorne-Hardy, Miss Stanley and Mr. G. I. Molehn arrived at Government House Bombay on Monday the 7th February.

RATIO BILL AFTER BUDGET.

(Continued from previous page.)
to the Central Advisory Council for Railways.

HOME MEMBER'S STATEMENT

WHY BILL IS TO BE TAKEN UP AFTER BUDGET.

DELHI, February 7. The Home Member announced that "Government have given very careful consideration to the question of further procedure of the Currency Bill, and have taken fully into account the views expressed by various speakers in the course of debate on January 25th. In order that their position in this matter may be clear to the House, Government desire to explain shortly the reason for the conclusion they have reached."

"As many Hon. members are aware, the main features of Budget have to be settled by Government by the middle of January each year, and it is only under considerable pressure that the preparation of detailed estimates and demands for the grants can be completed in time for the introduction of the Budget on February 28th. The decision of the Assembly to postpone consideration of the Currency Bill, last August, therefore made it impossible for the budget of 1927-28 to be prepared on the basis of any ratio other than 1s. 6d. The effect on the Budget of a reduction of ratio on 1s. 4d. would, of course, be very considerable, but it does not, in any way, depend on the question whether the final decision regarding the ratio is taken before or after the introduction of the Budget."

EFFECT THE SAME.

Clearly the effect must be the same in either case, and as stated by the Currency Commission in paragraph 207 of their report, the effect though it is not decisive cannot be ignored in considering what the ratio should be. If the House is called upon to come to a decision on the ratio before the Budget is introduced the decision will take place in the absence of facts and figures, which are known to Government and are very material to discussion, and should obviously be weighed by the House in coming to their conclusion but cannot be disclosed without a premature disclosure of the contents of the Budget. If on the other hand the Budget is opened before discussion takes place the House will have full knowledge of the bearing upon the finances of the country of the decision they are called on to take, and will be able to come to their conclusion both on the Budget and on the ratio with a full understanding of all relevant facts. No more and no less difficultly would be involved in readjusting the budget figures and proposals to 1s. 4d. if a decision in favour of that ratio were taken after February 28th, than if it were taken earlier. In view of these considerations, Government have decided to put down the motion that the Currency Bill be taken into consideration on Monday, March 7th."

RAILWAY AND GENERAL BUDGETS.

CONGRESS PARTY'S ATTITUDE.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 6. Two important questions were discussed by the Congress Party of the Legislative Assembly this evening with an attendance of about 20 members. The first was the delay in bringing before the Assembly for consideration, the Exchange Ratio Bill, and the other, the Government's reply to the Assembly's demand for the release of political prisoners.

On the first question, the Party, after discussion, decided to move the adjournment of the Assembly at to-morrow's sitting in order to force Government to bring the ratio Bill within a few days, before the railway Budget is taken into consideration. Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyengar will bring forward the motion which is likely to be supported by the Nationalist and Independent Parties.

RAILWAY BUDGET.

It is understood that the Railway Budget will be presented about the 18th February in both Houses of the Legislature.

As regards the second question, the Party discussed the various suggestions made to the members in order to record a protest against Government's "unsatisfactory" reply. Some members suggested the throwing out of all official motions next week, including those for supplementary grants. Others suggested that the Railway Budget should be thrown out, while a few advised concentration on the General Budget. The Party has come to no definite conclusion. It is, however, believed that an attempt may be made by the Party to vote down the supplementary demands for grants. The Party's attitude in respect of the Railway Budget and the General Budget will be considered later, after ascertaining the feelings of other Parties who have not yet come to any definite conclusions on the subject.—A. P.

HOME MEMBER'S STATEMENT

POSSIBILITIES OF AN ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 7. The statement made in the Assembly today, by the Home Member regarding the Currency Bill is the subject for discussion in the lobbies, and the various elements constituting the non-Official Opposition are being sounded to see whether it would be possible and desirable to pilot tomorrow successfully a motion of adjournment. Indeed such a motion may give an indication of the respective strength of 1/6 and 1/4 parties in the Assembly. It may not

therefore be light-heartedly embarked upon. In the meantime, it is of interest to learn that the official text of the resolution of the Congress Working Committee, which is now available is: "The Working Committee resolved by a majority that the ratio to be supported is 1/4. It also resolved unanimously that proposals for the establishment of gold currency should be embodied in the bill and be supported."

It was next resolved that instructions be issued accordingly to members of the Congress Party in the Assembly and the Council of State.—A. P.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION TO BE MOVED

NEW DELHI, Feb. 7. It is now definitely known that there will be an adjournment motion in the Assembly to-morrow to raise the question of Government's delay in bringing up the Currency Bill and that it will most probably be moved by Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar. In any case even if no adjournment motion, but conversations this evening show that it will have the support of a majority of the non-official element.—A. P.

"HIGHLY OBJECTIONABLE PRINCIPLE."

SIR P. THAKURDAS ON HOME MEMBER'S STATEMENT.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 7. Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas in an interview to the Associated Press on the statement made by the Home Member on the Currency Bill said:—"The statement is so fundamentally unsatisfactory that so far as I am concerned I cannot let the statement to be on record of the Assembly without a protest from me. I expect the other parties will take the same view and move an adjournment of the House to-morrow. The statement has only proved the fears I gave expression to the other day that Government want to pre-empt the discussion by putting it off till the 7th March. It does not want a decision on the ratio on its merits but on its merits in the light of the budget situation of Government which is an highly objectionable principle."—A. P.

13 LAKHS EXPENDITURE FOR ROYAL COMMISSION.

FINANCE COMMITTEE SANCTIONS GRANT.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 6. The Standing Finance Committee, it is understood, held its final meeting for the session yesterday and considered a number of proposals placed before it. The discussion is said to have centred round the grant of Rs. 13,00,000 for meeting the cost of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The Committee, it is understood, have asked for all particulars under 'Voteable and non-voteable' heads and as to the expenditure in India and England with details of remuneration to the different members, their staff, etc. Information has been promised and the grant was sanctioned.

In the course of the discussion it was pointed out that generally the Royal Commissions have so far cost India from rupees two to three lakhs. All members are said to have expressed the opinion that the expenditure of thirteen lakhs of rupees was rather too large, and that it may be desirable for future to lay down the principles of expenditure on Commissions and Committees.

Of the thirteen lakhs, it is estimated five lakhs will be spent in this country while the rest of the money will be spent in England. Of the entire sum about four lakhs will be voteable and the rest non-voteable. As regards future sittings of the Finance Committee, it is understood a meeting would not be called except in emergency, and even then not more than once or twice.—Free Press.

THE RAILWAY ACT.

SIR P. THAKURDAS URGES AMENDMENT.

NEW DELHI, February 7. Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, in another question drew the attention to the report of the Aeshw Committee of which he was a member, suggesting that the Chairman of the Rates Tribunal could, at the outset, be better employed for the examination of the need for amendment of the Railway Act in the light of modern development, both of the circumstances in India and of the legislation in other countries.

Mr. Parsons, replying, said that various suggestions had been received from time to time from the various local Governments, as regards the proposal to revise the Act, and others were under consideration. The advice of the Rates Advisory Committee was proposed to be taken on the matter.—A. P.

BILL TO AMEND INDIAN PIMITATION ACT.

NEW DELHI, Jan. 7. In moving that the Bill further to amend the Indian Limitation Act, 1908, be taken into consideration, Sir Alexander Muddiman said that the main proposal was taken up at the instance of the Bombay High Court. The Bill is mainly intended to reduce the limit of time for execution in case of money decrees from 12 to 6 and to raise the period of limitation from 3 to 6 years but to permit the decree holder even after the expiry of six years to apply for execution, if he can show that judgment debtor has come into the same property or that he has recently discovered that the judgment debt or has property. The Government of India have consulted all local Governments and High Courts. In result the large bulk of opinion is in favour of the amendment.

Mr. C. Duraiswami Iyengar opposed

IN AID OF HOSPITAL FUND.

PROCESSION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS AND NURSES.

AN IMPOSING SCENE

VOLUNTEERS' ACTIVITIES FOR COLLECTIONS.

A successful procession of the students of the Grant Medical College, The Gordhandas Sunderdas Medical College and The National Medical College of Bombay and the nurses both Indian and European moved through the important streets of the city on Monday to collect funds for the Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital fund. The procession started precisely at 9.30 a.m. from the Sir J. J. Hospital via Crawford Market, Sheikha Memon Street, Moti Bazar, Bhuleswar Road. The processionists in all these business areas moved from shop to shop and some even approached those occupying the residential premises and by the time the procession reached Chowpatty, the processionists felt sure they had secured a holiday on Tuesday for the college students, for they were pretty sure they had collected a sum much larger than stipulated by the Dean of the Grant Medical College, Dr. Nadgir for a holiday. From the Lamington Road the processionists divided themselves into two batches, one going to the J. J. Hospital via Lamington, Forbes and Belasis Roads and the other moving among the aristocracy of Chowpatty.

The sum collected will be counted on Tuesday.

collected money, and did not hesitate to invade tram-cars or even some shops for collecting money for the noble object.

In the afternoon, the procession started from the Royal Institute of Science and began the work of collecting money on the Esplanade and Hornby Roads. Every place was entered by enthusiastic volunteers and every person irrespective of his or her position was approached for help. And the response they received was simply worth the good name of Bombay. Halting at numerous places the procession moved on towards Chowpatty via Crawford Market, Sheikha Memon Street, Moti Bazar, Bhuleswar Road. The processionists in all these business areas moved from shop to shop and some even approached those occupying the residential premises and by the time the procession reached Chowpatty, the processionists felt sure they had secured a holiday on Tuesday for the college students, for they were pretty sure they had collected a sum much larger than stipulated by the Dean of the Grant Medical College, Dr. Nadgir for a holiday. From the Lamington Road the processionists divided themselves into two batches, one going to the J. J. Hospital via Lamington, Forbes and Belasis Roads and the other moving among the aristocracy of Chowpatty.

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THE HOSPITAL FUND.

To the Editor of "The Chronicle," Sir,—Practically the entire public has shown keen and commendable sympathy with the campaign for the Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital Fund. It is a matter for genuine gratification that even students of most of the educational institutions in the city have come forward to help the Fund to the best of their abilities. While admiring the zeal of the public I cannot help bringing to the notice of the authorities certain reports which have reached my ear of pressure brought to bear on a certain class of people by some over enthusiastic Government officers. It is reported that an Excise officer is practically compelling liquor-shop keepers to buy tickets of the Fund worth Rs. 200. It is very unfortunate if this is true. Such pressure is calculated to defeat the lofty purpose of the collections. That alone abides and bears fruit which flows from willing hearts. I hope the authorities will make inquiries and take immediate steps to stop such officious and unauthorised indiscretions.—Yours, etc.,

A CORRESPONDENT.

Bombay, Feb. 7.

DR. DAS GUPTA ARRESTED.

WHILE INSPECTING STUDENTS PROCESSION.

SENSATION AT PATUAKHALL.

PATUAKHALL, Feb. 7.

Dr. J. M. Das Gupta, who had come here to study the Satyagraha situation, was arrested by the police along with two others while they were inspecting a procession organised by students of the Jubilee School to celebrate Saraswati Pujah.

It is learnt that the school authorities had forbidden celebrating the Pujah within the school compound.

Dr. Das Gupta refused to be enlarged on bail.—Free Press.

MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR PATUAKHALL.

(From a Correspondent.)

PADRAUNA, Feb. 7.

Eighteen volunteers from Tansil Padrauna, Gorakhpur were sent yesterday for Patuakhall Satyagrah. The volunteers are cheerful. They are of opinion that they should not return home till Satyagrah ended.

consideration of the bill.

After a brief discussion, the Bill was taken into consideration and passed on an assurance being given by Government that the textual alterations suggested by Mr. Diraiswami Iyengar, by way of amendment would be considered and made in the Council of State.—Free Press.

INDIAN SECURITIES ACT.

On the motion of Mr. M. S. Aney the Assembly selected a number of members to sit on the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Indian Securities Act 1920. Sir Alexander Muddiman introduced the Bill amending the Presidency Towns Insolvency Act 1909 and the Provincial Insolvency Act 1920.—A. P.

MEMBERS SWORN IN.

NEW DELHI, February 7.

Sir George Paddison and Sir Darcy Lindsay, members of the Indian deputation to South Africa, who returned yesterday, took the oath of allegiance, and were cheered by all sections of the House.—A. P.

BOMBAY SCHOOL OF ART.

EXHIBITION OF STUDENTS' WORK.

His Excellency the Governor will preside at the annual prize-giving ceremony and the Exhibition of students' work at the Sir J. J. School of Art to-day. The Exhibition is fairly representative. The numerous exhibits include painting, drawing and modelling classes, the applied arts and crafts sections, the architectural school and the normal class for drawing teachers. The pottery section is conspicuous by its absence.

The large ceiling painted in the Ajanta style, by order of Her Highness the Maharani of Baroda for the Villa Lakshmi Palace, by the class of mural painting at, once attracts attention. It is a composition of arabesques of figures, birds, fruits and flowers, and the centre is occupied by a circular 'motif' in decorative patterns. The surrounding walls are covered with examples of the class work of the advanced students. Black and white studies from life which show the students' grasp of proportion and chiaroscuro, the drawn and painted heads from life, and the pictorial compositions, the water-colour studies of the Taj Mahal, the Fort of Agra, and Fatehpur Sikri bear testimony to the useful results of the annual students' Excursion Party. Perhaps, to many the most attractive exhibits in this gallery, beside the painting section, will be the decorative panels in Indian style. The other exhibits show the work in drawing and painting done at all stages of the curriculum, from the study of simple plastic and nature forms, and the designing of saree borders, to the advanced study in the life class and the class of mural painting. The modellers show several plaster casts of heads from life, bas-reliefs, and in particular three representations of a seated girl in flowing draperies.

The Reay Art Workshops are very strongly represented this year, and the beautiful garden seat of carved stone in Hindu style, with its elephant supports may be considered to be an outstanding feature of the show. The copper and silver cigar lighters—especially the one of Indian design which has been presented to His Excellency as a souvenir—are other very distinctive exhibits, and the carved tables, book cases, telephone stands, etc., are successful efforts to bring skilful craftsmanship to bear upon articles of modern use. The exhibits, vases, enamelling, brass, silver, etc., are all worth careful examination.

The Architectural School has a new feature this year, consisting of series of models of buildings section, and the sketches and designs of the students are of a higher quality and more varied interest than past years. Schemes for treating unclaimed portions of Back Bay, studies for country cottages, and designs in Indian traditional forms may all be seen here. The Drawing Teachers' Class has an encouraging display of work, and not the least interesting exhibits are the experimental friezes and wall-designs of the decorators in the Reay Art Workshop in geometrical and floral forms. This innovation is of real benefit in this country where wall-papers cannot be utilised.

FAMINE IN BIJAPUR DISTRICT.

HARROWING TALES OF DESTITUTION AND STARVATION.

WHOLESALE EMIGRATIONS.

PLEA FOR SUSPENSIONS AND GENEROUS REMISSIONS

The following statement with regard to famine in Bijapur District has been issued by Mr. Shrinivasrao Kowajagi, President of the District Congress Committee, to the Press:

"Whereas the hardships inflicted, by the faulty system of the 'anna-valuation' of crops, on poor agriculturists in some parts of the Karnatak, became more frequent than the Fourth Provincial Conference, held at Bellary last May, passed a resolution calling upon the District Congress Committee to undertake the 'anna-valuation' of crops whenever it becomes necessary. In pursuance of that resolution, the Bijapur District Congress Committee, when it saw the signs of famine early in October last, decided to undertake the valuation of crops in the middle of December. It has not been possible for the few Congress workers to visit thousand and odd villages in the District and take the valuation of crop in them. However, a very detailed and authentic information about some villages has been collected and published from time to time in the Bombay dailies and the Karnatak Vaidhava of Bijapur. The general condition of the district may be described as follows:

"It is a matter of common knowledge by now that the greater part of the District is a prey to famine, but in the month of October the prospects of both the kharif and rabi crops were hopeful. Some villages were expecting bumper crops this year. By the month of October, the sowing of rabi crops had been completed. The lands intended for wheat were still to be sown. An inch of rain in October would have facilitated the sowing of wheat and avoided severe famine. That single inch of rain failed at the nick of time. It stopped not only the sowing of wheat but also the growth of rabi and kharif crops. Rabi, which was only a foot high, withered hopelessly. The kharif, which was just putting forth ears, was able to yield only fodder of a very light type. The yield of corn was in the proportion of one bag for three cartloads of fodder. So the cattle were provided for by the kharif fodder, but the human beings remained with a perilously small amount of corn. Inspite of the failure of rains in October, some people sowed wheat in anticipation of rain in November. Their labour was lost, as well as the seeds. Thus the rabi crops crushed the hopes of agriculturists. Some had sown cotton and hoped that it would not fail, but the adverse eastern wind, spoiled the cotton crop also. The price of cotton also is not encouraging. In face of these facts, the people naturally began to look about for means of maintenance and they began to migrate by the end of November to places where the kharif harvest was tolerably fair. But all could not find work and food within the District. Evacuation in rural area became general by the end of December. In the matter of migration the Talukas of Indi and Bijapur are said to be fortunate to a certain extent. Although crops in some parts of Indi Taluka have failed, during the preceding years crops were better. Therefore, the sustaining power of the ravens in that Taluka is not so much exhausted as in other Talukas. As for the Bijapur Taluka, some 20 villages were fortunate in having October rains. They have yielded 8anna kharif crops and 6anna rabi crops. This small portion of the Taluka gave some relief to the remaining portion of the same. Consequently, the migrations from these Talukas have not been as yet considerable.

FLIGHT OF EMIGRANTS.

The plight of emigrants from other Talukas is too horrible to imagine. Some have left their home and hearth without fixing any destination. They have taken the chance of finding work and bread, in some God-favoured land. Others have gone to one or the other of the following places, viz., Hubli, Dandeli, God, Ryadgi, Haveri, Kardwadi and many other places. Unfortunately, some had to return disappointed from Dandeli as the place is already crowded by destitute emigrants. Owing to the bad climate the health of those people has been completely broken. Those that have gone to God have had to return without being able to bear the unfavourable climate of the place. The authorities are as yet engaged in the valuation of the crops. It is probable that they may discover scarcity and open some rest works before declaring famine in the District. But before these rest works are opened, many will have left the villages to seek employment elsewhere. Even by the 15th of January the population in the rich villages like Kundargi and Arkari were reduced by one-third owing to evacuation. As the year advances, evacuation increases rapidly and the fields which require summer operations will be left without any tillage.

TAKKAVI.

The Collector of the District is trying in his own way to help the people by ad-

vancing Takkavi loans for erecting dams in the fields. The Takkavi loans are intended only for effecting improvements in the lands. At a time when the people are in want of food, there is every possibility of the borrowers utilising the amount in purchasing the food instead of spending it on improvements. The conditions of the loans are very strict, and the rate of interest also is not encouraging (8 1/4 per cent.). Under these conditions it is very doubtful whether those loans will be taken advantage of by a large number of people. It is probable that they will involve the already indebted peasants more deeply in debts.

There is no knowing as yet what villages will get the advantages of suspensions and remissions. To add to the misery of the villagers in cases where the assessment will be collected, the instalments of the former Takkavi loans will also be collected. Out of the poor crops nothing will be left to the villagers after paying the assessments and instalments of the loans. In short the Bijapur District is in a miserable plight and hundreds of poor people are leaving their homes in search of food and employment, perhaps not to return again to this ill-fated land.

It will take too much space if crop conditions of every part of the district are to be stated in detail. However, the following is an attempt to give the general condition of crops by Talukas:

CONDITIONS IN VARIOUS TALUKAS.
BIJAPUR TALUKA.—The crops in the villages Honwad, Sarwad, Bableshwar, Bijargur, Bahanagar, Gennur, Kambari and Shivnagi are fairly good and can be estimated from 6 to 8 annas. The rest of the Taluka is not good.

INDI TALUKA.—Irrigated areas and some places on the river banks yield good crops. The rest of the Taluka is more or less famine-stricken.

SINDAGI TALUKA.—Some villages, viz., Korwar, Jalwad, Devangan, Handiganur, Yelagod and a few more villages can be said fit for paying assessment. The rest of the Taluka is hard hit.

BAGEVADI TALUKA.—There is no village in the Bagevadi Taluka which is free from scarcity. Considerable portion of fertile land along the Don river is fallow. Emigrations are increasing.

MUDDERHAL TALUKA.—The same as Bagevadi.

HUNGUND TALUKA.—The kharif lands in the villages of Kamatagi, Amingad, Sulebhavi, Kelnur, Gudur, Hikal have yielded 8 anna crops. The rest of the Taluka is completely famine-stricken. Owing to continued scarcity the emigrations are on an extensive scale.

BADAMI TALUKA.—Badami proper and the kharif crops on the road to Ramadurg are tolerably good. The rabi crops on the Malaprabha river can be estimated at 4 annas. The remaining portion is in the same plight as the famine stricken areas of the other Talukas.

BAGALKOT TALUKA.—In some villages near Murnal the crops can be valued at 4 annas. The rest of the Taluka is very hard hit.

BELGI PETHA.—In the villages, viz., Bisahni, Teggi, Badagi, Budihal, Sidapur and Gulabli the kharif crops are good. But the rest of the Petha is in the clutches of famine.

The Congress workers and friends after very careful personal inspection have supplied this information. The number of all kinds of cattle has been decreasing rapidly, and the bullocks brought even to the prize shows are quite mediocre in bulk, size and strength. The indebtedness of the raiyat is simply appalling. One wonders how he will ever get out of his difficulties. Successive famines have crushed the vitality of the agriculturists who have become pessimistic about any help coming either from Government or from public bodies. They think that they are doomed to destruction that neither petitions nor representation will help them. Thorough measures are required to save them. The immediate relief can be given in the form of suspensions and remissions on a very large scale. A few villages might have been fortunate, but the district taken as a whole deserves famine measures.

This statement cannot be concluded without thanks being offered to the "Indian National Herald", the "Bombay Chronicle", the "Karnatak Vaidhava" and other Karnatak papers for having devoted their columns freely to the famine in the Bijapur District. The District Congress Committee further hopes that the papers will continue to favour our District as in the past.

STEEL PROTECTION OR BRITISH PREFERENCE.

(Continued from page 7.)

made to the Bill as originally introduced by the Government, yet the general scheme remains the same. The main scheme of the Bill is to differentiate between the steel of British origin and of non-British origin. The scheme has been criticised as a scheme of Imperial preference but we were assured that this was not really the Imperial preference but the differentiation based on differences in quality of the steel imported. Even though we might be prepared to accept the assurance that the Imperial preference was not sought to be introduced through this Bill, yet the fact remains that the difference in duty which is sought to be imposed, is not based merely on quality of goods but on the basis of the country of origin. We think it very undesirable to adopt any scheme of protective duty based upon the country of origin of the commodities imported. The acceptance of such a principle in any form is not merely unsound, but it may lead to complications in our fiscal policy in future.

DISADVANTAGE TO CONTINENTAL MANUFACTURE.

Though the greater proportion of the Continental steel that is imported to India, does not conform to the British standard specification, it has not been denied that the standard steel is manufactured in the Continental also. By imposing a protective duty on all continental steel irrespective of the facts, whether it is standard steel or not, the Continental manufacturer of standard steel is placed at disadvantage in the Indian market as compared with the position of the British manufacturer. Such discrimination, in our opinion, cannot be justified unless India is prepared deliberately to adopt the policy of the British preference.

DETERIORATION OF QUALITY.

Though we are assured that all steel manufactured in the United Kingdom conforms to the British standard specification, yet it is not unlikely that the British manufacturer, taking advantage of the assured protection given to him in Indian market for a period of seven years, may lower the standard of British steel imported into this country. This result can be brought about either by deliberately lowering the standard or by the greater use of the semi-finished Continental steel. Our apprehensions in this respect are confirmed by the remark of the Tariff Board in paragraph 104 of the report in which they observe "Present prices of the imported British steel on which our proposals are based, reflect to very large extent the economies rendered possible by the use of the semi-finished Continental material". In any case there is the likelihood that rejections of the British manufacture may be sent to India in larger quantities.

BASIC AND ADDITIONAL DUTY.

These are some of our main objections against the scheme proposed by the Government, and for these reasons we regret, we cannot agree to the scheme. After carefully considering the various alternative schemes suggested by the Tariff Board, we have come to the conclusion that uniform duty based on weighted average scheme with basic duty which will not be altered for seven years, would be best in these circumstances. Under the scheme that we propose, there would be the basic duty calculated upon the present selling price of the British standard steel together with an additional duty to protect Indian steel against Continental steel which sells at the lower price. If the price of the British or the Continental steel increases or decreases, the Governor-General-in-Council is given the power to decrease or increase the additional duty as the case may be. This modified scheme that we propose, will meet the main objections urged against the average weighted system as proposed by the Tariff Board. Our scheme differs from that suggested by the Board in that we have proposed, the levy of the basic and additional duty in place of our uniform duty suggested by them. The basic and additional duty that we propose, would be levied upon all steel, irrespective of the country of origin. By fixing the basic duty for the period of seven years, the steel industry is assured the minimum protection during this period, and this would achieve the object of attracting the fresh capital into the steel industry. The power to alter the additional duty which we propose to vest in the Governor-General-in-Council will be the effective safeguard against any excess or ineffective protection.

INHERENT DEFECTS.

We are conscious of the fact that under our scheme the price of the British standard steel will be little higher than the corresponding price under the Government Bill. Though this may be considered to be the defect inherent in the scheme that we propose, we may urge that the additional duty on the user of the British steel is counterbalanced by the lower price of Continental Steel. None of the alternative schemes suggested by the Tariff Board can be said to be entirely flawless, and in our opinion the scheme that we have proposed seems to be the best under the circumstances. The draft of the Bill embodying the scheme suggested, has been appended by the signatories.

Signatories are:—Lala Lajpat Rai, Messrs. M. R. Jayakar, G. D. Birla, R. K. Chetty, Jammadas Mehta, M. K. Acharya, Amarnath Datta and Komar Ganagananda Sinha.

Mr. Jammadas Mehta and Mr. M. K. Acharya have signed the Minority report subject to further minute of dissent.—Free Press.

STATE BALL AT GOVT. HOUSE.

The Commissioner of Police has issued the following instructions for the regulation of Traffic during the State ball at Government House to-day.

The carriage and Motor Cars of guests attending the State Ball at Government House to-day, will enter by the Lower Gate, Walkeshwar Road, and will leave by the Upper Gate to be parked outside Government House Grounds. The departure from the Ball will also be by the Lower gate. On arrival at the platform, a ticket bearing a number will be issued to the occupant and one bearing a similar number will be

THE GOLD BULLION STANDARD.

(Continued from page 6.)

money is rendered useless within the country. But it should be noted that one can prevail upon people not to use a particular thing for a particular purpose either by convincing them that its use is wasteful and unproductive or by depriving them of their right to do so by a fiat. Surely the first method is the safest and the easiest. One willingly approves of the disuse of gold internally—this consummation is to be devoutly wished for—but this result should be achieved not by compulsion but by persuasion, education and conviction.

There is no objection to a conscious control of currency and credit in a country. One even may go further and say that for India in particular one wants it because by such a control one wants to mobilise all our capital resources and with the help of these resources one wants to raise a credit super-structure on a conservative and safe basis to strengthen, stimulate and sustain our agriculture, industries and commerce. But this control should be exercised on the basis of an effective gold standard which affords ample scope for a conscious control.

NEW STANDARD UNACCEPTABLE.

It is true that under the gold bullion standard with a reserve bank, the currency authority will be able to maintain the exchange rate more effectively, efficiently and scientifically than before 1914. The recommendations of the Commission if carried out will simply perfect the old system and mechanism. If the Currency Commission was meant to achieve this much one has nothing to say in the matter, but that was really not the object of India when she demanded a Royal Commission. The Currency Authority may be able to maintain stability of exchange under the new system, but this system is not going to enable us to tap the existing gold resources of India and discourage India from absorbing large quantities of gold. It is not going to discourage the unproductive habits of hoarding and dissipation to investment which are the greatest obstacles to the progress of our country. It is not going to create confidence in the minds of the people, and it is not going to remove the dense atmosphere of suspicion which—much as one may regret—is surrounding the whole question. It is not going to provide a simple, certain, visibly conspicuous, and a sound system of currency. In short the gold bullion standard does not meet the needs and demands of the people of India, hence it is not acceptable to the country.

STEEL PROTECTION OR IMPERIAL PREFERENCE.

(Continued from page 6.)

office of the interests of the people of India.

THE BETTER WAY.

If you want honestly to help the Indian steel industry, why should you stop the present bounty, which is a simple and "honest" way of helping the industry, rather than the highly injurious method of "Imperial Preference," which seeks to rob the poor Indian masses, and feed with it the British manufacturers at the expense of India. If the industry was on a more stable foundation, the bounty could have been lowered. Why take off about a crore of rupees from the British steel import tariff for 7 long years, and levy that in another form on the taxpayers of India, and make iron steel goods dearer all round?

A FALSE ISSUE.

The bogey of discouraging "British standard of steel" is simply raised by the British capitalist or his henchmen in India, to catch the innocent and uneducated flies all over the Empire in his net. It is said that the Tata Iron and Steel Company have made a profit of Rs. 131 lacs (11 million) during the last nine months of the official year. It is not a wonder, that when the British steel works have been crippled or closed, owing to the abnormal situation of the British coal strike the Company has made a better profit, than as expected last year. It does not justify the optimistic view of the Tariff Board in doing away with the bounty altogether. We would have welcomed a lesser bounty of Rs. 30 or even 40 lacs, and an "honest" policy towards the people; instead of the dangerous and highly injurious policy of virtually looting the people by higher tariffs and "Imperial Preference," under the high-sounding and alluring camouflage of giving "protection to the industry".

The Baldwin Government seem intent on widening the grip of the British manufacturing octopus over ill-developed parts of the Empire, including India at the sacrifice of the millions of people in the land; and this is a glaring instance in point. We hope, we would not be treated similarly, in respect of our imports of piece-goods!

affixed to the conveyance. On departure, as conveyances come up, the numbers will be called, and should owners not be present on the platform their conveyances will be sent round. Guests coming in motor cars will be well advised to have licensed chauffeurs in charge of their cars, as cars ordinarily will be parked in the order in which they arrive and the later the arrival, the further will they be from Government House. As the lower drive is very narrow and there are many horse carriages no vehicle should overtake another vehicle while passing up the lower drive towards Government House.

LONDON NOTES.

WAR FEVER IN BRITAIN

ENGLAND'S METHODS IN CHINA

(From Our Correspondent.)

LONDON, Jan. 30.

The menace of direct British intervention in China is increasing hourly. "The Manchester Guardian" which last week twitted the "Times" and the "Daily Telegraph" on their belittling attitude towards affairs in the Far East has proved a false prophet. This pacifist Liberal oracle of Manchester has now become a voice in the wilderness. Those London dailies nearer to the financiers in the City and the militarists in White Hall, reflect more truly the mind of the British governing class, especially the diplomatic correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" is invariably a sure index to the policy of the British Foreign Office. Mr. Baldwin called last Monday to attend which the Secretary of State for War, Sir Workington Evans, hurried from the Continent, cutting short his holidays. Sir Austen Chamberlain had stayed in London over the week-end and to keep in constant communication with Mr. O'Malley who is conducting negotiations with Mr. Eugene Chen in Hankow. From all reports, the Cabinet is taking a serious view of the situation in China. Although individual Ministers in their public utterances are disclaiming any aggressive or imperialistic aims, the military and naval movements ordered by the Cabinet on Monday are being rapidly carried out. The First Cruiser Squadron consisting of "Probisier," "Dragon," "Delhi" and "Daneer" has already left Malta for Shanghai. The "Dauntless" will soon follow. The arrival of this Cruiser Squadron, the naval ratings on the China station will be more than 10,000. A further expeditionary force is being assembled at the Portsmouth barracks to leave for China next week. Scenes reminiscent of war time are being witnessed in towns with military garrisons in Britain. Yesterday at Chatham and Plymouth contingents of Royal Marines in field equipment marched through the town and entrained for Portsmouth. Affecting scenes occurred at the railway stations as the men bade farewell to their wives and children. The contingent that will sail from Portsmouth by s.s. "Zealand" next week is larger than the expeditionary force sent out to Belgium for the defence of Antwerp and Ostend in the early stages of the last war. H. M. Hospital ship Maine, is expected to leave for China with the gun-boats "Aphis" and "Ladybird" by the end of the month. They will be escorted by the Destroyers—the "Wanderer" and "Wolverine."

TANKS FOR CHINA.

A great deal of mystery surrounds the charting of the "Union-Castle" liners, the "Kildonian" and the "Kintanus" by the Admiralty.

The vessels are now being fitted at Southampton. The proposed despatch of tanks and air-craft may explain the reason. The Diplomatic correspondent of the "Star" (Liberal evening paper) understands "authoritatively" that it has been decided to dispatch a number of tanks to China. "The tanks that are to be sent out will be of the small type as it would be impossible to use the large tanks in the streets, should occasion arise for such a step." It is also understood that a number of land planes are also to be despatched to the East. At the present moment only deck-landing craft are immediately available. Munitions are being hurried to the British depots. The British press is publishing a flood of alarmist and exaggerated reports from China. The Yellow journals are working up the jingo fever with the war cry of "women and children in danger."

The British community in Shanghai demands that the British Government should order the withdrawal of the Indo-China Navigation Company's steamers and thus dislocate the transport in the Yangtze. One reason for this economic sabotage is to

frighten and if possible alienate the Chinese middle-class and thus split the national ranks. Another object is to increase difficulties of the National Government and provoke it if possible to take over the closed banks, factories, warehouses and offices and reopen them for the benefit of the people, and thus provide excellent opportunity for the rupture of relations. Shanghai is anxiously awaiting some such incident or some act of retaliation by the Chinese workers. The Shanghai High-priest of war, the "North China Daily News" has been for some time past heating a tattoo on the tribal war drum. It has been opposing negotiations and demands action, redistribution of wealth and results, for the time.

BRITISHERS' METHODS IN SHANGHAI.
But Shanghai is disappointed in its search for an incident by the splendid discipline of the Yeung Cantonese General—Chiang Kai-shek and the cool but firm diplomacy of Eugene Chen, the Foreign Minister. According to the correspondent of the "Morning Post", Mr. Eugene Chen told the British envoy Mr. O'Malley plainly that all the foreign concessions must be handed over. They may be leased again but on a real rent-paying and tax-paying basis and of course will be ruled by a Chinese and not a foreign Municipal Council. Even Mr. Wellington Koo, the Foreign Minister of the Shadow Government at Peking is understood to have gathered enough courage to put forward a similar claim. Another hitch in the plans of the British Imperialists is their continued failure to establish an united imperialist front. Britain has up to the present failed to obtain a guarantee either of co-operation or neutrality from the other great Powers—U.S.A., Japan, France, etc. Belgium in fact has gone far in the other direction. She has suspended the proceedings which it had initiated at the Hague Court of International Justice and has agreed to unconditionally give up its concession at Tientsin and thus establish an inconvenient precedent. Belgium considers her trade with China more important and valuable than the concession and is negotiating a new treaty with China on the basis of perfect equality and renouncing voluntarily all the rights conferred on Belgium by the Convention of 1902. France somehow does not think it so dangerous for her nationals to stay on at Hankow and carry on business. She does not feel like evacuating. The Dutch do not think that the present is quite the right time to laugh and support the British memorandum. The Japanese maintain a masterly policy of non-commitment.

MENDACIOUS PROPAGANDA.

Although Britain has thus far failed, to secure allies for a policy of direct intervention in China, she is pursuing unabated a policy of indirect intervention. The real implications of the pious British memorandum published on Christmas day, are being revealed week by week. The exultant telegrams of the British correspondents in Shanghai this week bear out the truth of Mr. Chen's prediction. Here is a sample "The Washington" surtaxes become effective here tomorrow. Marshall Sun-Chuan Fang is collecting them directly through the Bank of China and it is believed here that he will receive more than £25,000 monthly. Shanghai now becomes the principal objective of the Chinese militarists. Nevertheless Marshall Sun, who has now cleared Chekiang of Nationalist troops, will possess large funds to maintain his position."

In view of the persistent and mendacious misrepresentations that are being carried on by the Kuomintang aims at Bolshevist revolution, the following extract from an account by the special correspondent of the "Times" is interesting: "Property will be respected, but Capital will not be allowed to become dominant as in U.S.A. Foreigners will have equal opportunities with Chinese in all respects and treaties will be made with foreign powers on the basis of reciprocity."

EMPEROR EDWARD MILL.

THE STRIKERS' FIRM STAND.

A mass meeting of the strikers of the Emperor Edward Mill was held on Sunday, when the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"Resolved that the strikers do stand firm and united and express their willingness to continue the strike pending an amicable settlement of this dispute and redressing of their just and legitimate grievances. The workers reiterate the appeal to their fellow textile workers of Bombay not to offer their service to the mill which had trampled underfoot the rights of the working class."

SYMPATHY FOR THE STRIKERS.

At a meeting of the operatives of the Khatav Mankaji Mill held on Saturday last, and at a meeting held on 31st ulto. by the textile workers of Lower Parel, resolutions were passed protesting against the attitude of the management of the Emperor Edward Mills.

"STRIKE NOT AT AN END."

RELIEF FUND OPENED.

The General Secretary of the Bombay Textile Labour Union, writes:—

"In the morning issue of the 'Times of India' dated 7th inst. a report has appeared to the effect that the strike of the weavers from the Emperor Edward Mill is at an end, that the mill worked on Saturday with 655 men in the Weaving Department. I wonder how such reports could find circulation in a responsible daily like the 'Times of India'. The 655 weavers al-

leged to be working are all new hands. "As far as my knowledge of the actual facts go, I know it for certain that so far none of the weavers on strike has resumed work. On the contrary in a meeting held on Sunday at 9 a.m. the strikers have once more reiterated their firm desire not to resume work unless and until their just and legitimate grievances are redressed. They stand as firm as before. In order that the strikers and their families should not starve for want of adequate money to purchase food, a Strike Relief Fund has been organised in which contributions are already coming forth."

"I may assure the public that it should not be led away by misleading reports that are sent to the Press by interested parties. The Bombay Textile Labour Union is already in communication with the Agents, Millowners' Association, and the Government of Bombay, with a view to ending the strike in an amicable manner. The duty of the public is clear: I appeal to the generous minded rich of the city to respond to the appeal and pay their quota to the Strike Relief Fund."

THE WEATHER.

SIMLA, Feb. 7.

The western disturbance has begun to affect Baluchistan where the temperature has risen. The weather has been dry except for half an inch of rain at Jabulpore and quarter of an inch at Ranchi.

Forecast: A few falls in Baluchistan.—A. P.

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HOSPITAL DAY PROCESSION IN BOMBAY.



"Chronicle" Photo.

A huge procession was organised by the Bombay medical students and nurses in aid of the "Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital Fund." The photo shows the crowd watching the demonstrations on the way.



"Chronicle" Photo.

The merry medics rehearsed their parts on Sunday at the Yarnunabai Nair Hospital. Their smiles were not wasted on the public.

EXTRAVAGANCE IN BOMBAY PORT TRUST.

To The Editor of "The Chronicle".
Sir,—With reference to the protest of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau against the creation of the new post of Deputy Chairman, I beg to put before the public the real facts how the administration is costing lakhs of rupees for maintaining an establishment of officers in the different department, not a few of whom are merely initialling papers and signing memos which are prepared by clerks who really do the responsible work.

Instead of having superfluous officers, the Trustees could have managed the whole show of the Railway Department with one Manager, one Deputy, 3 Yard Foreman and few senior clerks. This is the main reason why trade is being diverted to other ports. The Port Trust is putting heavy charges in order to pay handsome salaries and provide luxuries to their officials only, and practically starving the lower-paid staff and menials. The Customs Department is sucking blood in form of import duties, the mercantile community is strangled by these two Departments and the consumer has to pay abnormally high prices for the commodities that are imported. Will any member of the public be kind enough to let me know how many Deputies the Traffic Managers have got at present, at the administrative offices of the G. I. P. and B. B. and C. I. railways and the salary and allowances they draw?

The Trustees, no doubt, are shrewd business men but the remaining show is run by the Government officials who are accustomed to red-tape in their own departments. Whenever the question of providing the lower staff with some concessions, the financial difficulties and trade depression always prey on the brains of the Chairman.

The public will be surprised that the Trustees should have built bungalows at East Colaba, sanctioned family allowance for officials and built chawls for labourers and no provisions made for the lower middle class, the clerks who are really deserving the consideration for concessions in form of quarters or some allowance to sublet them on account of high rents in the city. When the clerks make petitions, the Secretary replies in two lines: "Allowance cannot be granted on account of finances of the Trust."

The Retirement Committee which was appointed by the Trustees, now appears a farcical Committee. It recommended a reduction in the annual increment of clerks from Rs. 5 to Rs. 3 per annum and put the clerical staff to great hardship by bringing in force a test examination at Rs. 80 per annum. All clerks when they reach Rs. 80 must appear for examination, whatever paraphernalia of this test is as an outsider is unable to say but the clerks who fail to pass the test, have their further increment stopped. This test ought to have been put for officials before giving them fat jobs or promotions and not to clerks. The Retirement Committee did deprive the clerical staff of a slice of their income and put some obstacles in their prosperity but in their wisdom for retirement, instead of reducing the lengthy cricket-teams officials, created a new post of a Deputy Chairman. The Committee was appointed to retrench or reduce by the Trustees but it added one more fat post next to the head of the Port Trust.

Officers are continuously going on holidays for six months on average pay but in case of clerks or menial staff more than two months' leave is not allowed, although having leave to their credit. The lower staff is made to produce medical certificates and several obstacles are put in their way by the heads of the Departments.

Give an instance, a Deputy Manager of the Dock Department who was on probation was confirmed in the year 1924 and within twelve months he went on eight months' leave on average pay. I wonder how could an officer within one year's permanent service not eight months' leave on average pay? I do not know if the Trustees made an exception in case of this deputy.

In the next article I will deal with the Dock Department from the merchants' point of view.



"Chronicle" Photo.

Decking the enigmatic car with flags.



"Chronicle" Photo.

Way-side shopkeepers laughed at the circus at the door—and paid.

point of view. Although I am not directly concerned with the grievances of the staff but considering my association for the last twenty-five years, I have come across different correspondence passing between the offices of the Department and the staff, I am in position to give the public a glimpse of the hardships entailed. The shed and gate staff is bitterly complaining and expressing the difficulties. I hope Mr. Ginnwalla or Mr. Jhabwalla whom I have not the pleasure to know personally, will give some assistance, if necessary, about the lengthy correspondence they have carried with the Chairman on behalf of the Dock Union and the deliberations of the Department which called at the Chairman's office this month. Bulletin II which came in my hands through one of our clearing clerks does not give full particulars of the actions of the officer against whose promotions, the Union wants to hold a protest meeting.—Yours, etc.

A REPRESENTATIVE.
British Importing Firm.

February 5.

EUROPEAN OFFICER DROWNED.

CALCUTTA, Feb. 7.

A Customs Preventive Officer, Mr. Noel Kennedy, aged twenty-two, was drowned on Sunday, the boat in which he and three other officers were on patrol duty being caught in a strong eddy. The boat capsized. The other two escaped but Kennedy went down. His body has not yet been found.—Free Press.

BOMBAY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS COMMITTEE.

To The Editor of "The Chronicle".

Sir,—The proceedings of the last quarterly meeting of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee just closed have drawn much attention in the local press so much so one paper contains a long column on the activities of a minority. It will be interesting to see how far the financial side of the B. P. C. C. is being looked after by the authorities ruling at the Girgaum

Congress House. The income and expenditure statement for the year 1st October, 1926 to 30th September, 1927, adopted by the B. P. C. C. last week, gives the following figures:

INCOME.	
1. Estate revenue being rent	Rs. 7,284
2. Interest on various funds	12,460
	19,744
EXPENDITURE.	
1. Estate maintenance	Rs. 6,000
2. Grant	5,900
3. Office expenses:	
Salaries	4,800
Post and Tel.	300
Stationery	450
Telephone	300
Gen. Charges	400
Bonus	405
	6,585
4. Propaganda	1,200
5. Surplus	59
	19,744

The estate on which a sum of Rs. 2,90,000 and odd has been invested brings in a net income of only Rs. 1,284 per annum or in other words the return on the investment amounts to 13.29 per cent. As if this is not enough, the arrears of rent on the 1st October, 1926, stood at Rs. 7,000 and odd of which a sum of Rs. 5,000 is stated to be "doubtful." The income of the B. P. C. C. thus amounts to Rs. 13,744 per annum. Out of this the biggest slice, viz. Rs. 6,585 goes to the maintenance of an office out of all proportion to the needs of a Congress office. Will local Congressmen stop for a moment and consider whether the premier Congress organization in the country should spend as much as Rs. 7,000 per annum on an office? Next comes a sum of Rs. 5,900 on account of grants to certain educational institutions. It must be understood that these grants do not run the entire 12 months in regard to the largest grant, viz. to the Kelavani Mandal. On 1926 Congress propaganda a native run Rs. 12,000 is to be spent. Let those who collected the lakhs in 1921 just peep into these figures and

seriously consider whether their hard-earned collections are not being spent improperly? I will only allude to another sad feature of the accounts of the B. P. C. C. Ever since 1922 the income side of the B. P. C. C. has been confined only to the estate revenue and interest on the funds collected in 1921 and left unspent year after year. That means none of those holding office in the succeeding years have cared either to increase the membership quota or add to the Tilak Swaraj Fund. And yet the expenditure side is never curtailed and even the limited income is not used for real Congress work. Comment is superfluous.—Yours, etc.

A CONGRESSMAN.

[NEWS IN BRIEF.]

At a meeting of the Madras Reporters Association held at Madras on Sunday a resolution was passed placing on record the valuable services rendered to journalism in India by Mr. Scott-Brenner, Editor and Managing Director of the "Madras Mail". The Association, while regretting his impending departure from India, wished him happiness in his well-earned rest. Mr. Scott-Brenner is sailing for England on the 23rd instant.—A. P.

Colonel Nicolas, Sessions Judge, Lahore delivered judgment to-day in the "Rangila Rasmi" appeal case in which Rajpal, publisher of books of that name had been convicted by Mr. Phaulus, First Class Magistrate, and sentenced to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1,000. The Sessions Judge upheld the conviction, but reduced the sentence to six months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1,000. A revision appeal is being filed in the High Court.—A. P.

A Lahore message says: In the case in which Syed Habib, Editor of "Sikist" and his brother Syed Inayatshah are being prosecuted for alleged assault of a police officer in the discharge of his public duty, the prosecution has closed its evidence, and further hearing has been adjourned until the 9th instant when the defence evidence will be recorded.—A. P.

TENNIS.

PRESIDENCY CHAMPIONSHIP.

MRS. LUCAS AND RAJA IYER IN THE FINAL.

Monday proved to be a quiet day for the Bombay Presidency Hard Court Tennis Tournament, all three matches on the programme being decided in two straight sets. By defeating Gadgil and Kati, Raja Iyer and Prince Ghanashyamshiji enter the semi-finals of the doubles event, while Mrs. Lucas and Raja Iyer earned the right of meeting Mrs. Wright and Pitt in the mixed doubles final, by disposing of Mrs. Row and Harvey. In the semi-final of the Ladies' Doubles, Mrs. Roco and Miss Talvarkhan beat Miss Row and Miss Binning, and will contest the final with Miss Chase and Mrs. Prophet.

Miss Stebbing and Mrs. Row are to meet in the final of the Ladies' Singles to-day, and another good match should be the one between Suvarna and P. Rangaswami, and Raja and Prince Ghanashyamshiji in the semi-final.

GENTLEMEN'S DOUBLES.

Raja Iyer and Prince Ghanashyamshiji beat Gadgil and Kati, 6-4, 6-2.

MIXED DOUBLES.

Mrs. Lucas and Raja Iyer beat Mrs. Row and Harvey, 6-1, 6-0.

LADIES' DOUBLES.

Mrs. Roco and Miss Talvarkhan beat Miss Row and Miss Binning, 6-2, 6-4.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES

HINDU GYM COURTS.

No. 1 Suvarna and P. Rangaswami v/s. Raja Iyer and Prince Ghanashyamshiji at 4.15 followed by Mrs. Row v/s. Mrs. Row. (Final.)
No. 2 Gole and Vartak v/s. B. Sunderam and D. B. Desai at 4.15 p.m.

The Managing Committee of the Bombay Provincial Hindu Sabha has placed on record its strong protest against the action of the Government of India in sending Indian Troops to China and assures the Chinese Nationalists that they in their struggle for full independent existence have every sympathy of the Sabha.

HIGH COURT.

CASE AGAINST A JAIN SADHU

APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION [1] DISALLOWED.

An application was made before Justice Fawcett and Patkar on the Appellate Side of the High Court, by Muni Maharaj Ramvijayji and another against whom a case for causing hurt to a Jain lady is pending in the Court of the Additional City Magistrate of Ahmedabad.

The circumstances out of which the case arises are that the applicants who are Jain Sadhus were summoned to appear personally to answer to a charge of hurt in a complaint filed against them by Bai Ratan, a lady of the Jain community whose husband had abandoned her and the world in consequence, it is alleged, of the teachings of the Sadhus. The lady went to a meeting which was being addressed by the Sadus and demanded from the latter the whereabouts of her husband. Hot words were then exchanged between them, and in course of the quarrel, according to the lady's complaint, she was assaulted by the Sadhus.

The Sadhus applied for exemption from personal attendance in court, under section 205 of the Criminal Procedure Code, on the ground that they were religious heads and were engaged in religious work for the whole day. The Additional City Magistrate Mr. M. P. Desai rejected the application on the ground, among others, that section 205 of the Criminal Procedure Code was applicable only to "Paradashin" ladies and persons outside the jurisdiction of the Court. This order was confirmed by the Sessions Judge in appeal whereupon the Sadhus applied to the High Court in revision.

Sir Thomas Strangman, instructed by Messrs. Dastur and Co., Solicitors appeared for the applicants the Sadhus.

Mr. G. N. Thakore, Advocate, instructed by Messrs. Ramanlal and Himatlal represented the complainant.

Their Lordships disagreed with the Magistrate's view restricting the application of section 205 to Paradashin ladies, but on a review of all the facts and circumstances of the case, declined to interfere with the Magistrate's discretion. The application was therefore dismissed.

ALLEGED THEFT AT RACE COURSE.

The case in which George Martyn, a Christian lad was arrested in connection with the theft of binoculars from the members stand at the race course at Mahalaxji about two weeks ago was put up before Mr. Junglewalla 6th Presidency Magistrate. The police have arrested two more accused persons who are alleged to have dealt with George Martyn in the disposal of stolen property and from whose possession another pair of binoculars is alleged to have been recovered.

As property worth about Rs. 250 is yet to be recovered, Sub-Inspector Panlekar applied for a further remand which has been granted.

The accused, George Martyn was a riding boy in the Kollapur stables but is at present unemployed.

The staff of the Mysore Iron Works celebrated the fourth annual Works' Day on the 29th and 30th ult. The first day was devoted entirely to sports and during the evening the Social Union of the Works staged "Prahlad" in Kannada before a large audience.

An Association called "All-India Mutual Aid and Poor Houses Association Ltd." has been established at Mysore, its principal organisers being one Mr. M. L. Nagamati.



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NEW RESERVE BANK UNNECESSARY

EXPAND IMPERIAL BANK.

SPEECH OF SIR PURSHO- TAMDAS.

We give below relevant extracts from the speech delivered by Sir Purshotomdas Thakurdas on the motion to circulate the Reserve Bank Bill in the Indian Legislative Assembly:—

Sir, that the Bill should be circulated there will hardly be difference of opinion in this House. But the Hon. Member has taken advantage of this motion to tell the House a good deal not only about the main aspects of the Bill but also about the other subject in which he elected to give a technical reply to me this morning. I think, I too may, Sir, put before the House the main aspects of the Bill and currency reform as they strike me.

ONLY 5 INDIAN BANKS.

The Hon. the Finance Member quoted Dr. Sprague of the American Deputation who gave evidence before the Royal Commission in connection with the importance of banking to any country. Dr. Sprague, Sir, is a great authority. But greater authorities or equally great authorities in the past suggested the same thing to the Government of India as far back as 1893. The Herschell Committee and the Fowler Committee said the same thing, and several members on those two Committees put on record distinct recommendations or minutes to the effect that the whole of the currency reform in India as undertaken in 1892 and 1898 would be of no avail if banking was not developed. What is the result? The Bill itself contains a very vivid picture of the Government of India's acceptance of that recommendation. I would ask Honourable Members for a minute if I may, to turn to First Schedule to the Bill which it is now proposed to circulate. The First Schedule, Sir, contains the names of the banks which the Hon. Finance Member proposes should be looked upon as important banks to be controlled by the Reserve Bank which he asks this House to approve of. Out of 26 banks in that Schedule, the first 7 contains the names of Indian banks; and out of this 7 there is one which is now owned by a British bank—I refer to the Allahabad Bank which for all practical purposes has been taken over by the P. and O. Bank. You are then left with 6; and out of this 6 again you have one, the Imperial Bank, which owes its existence a great deal to assistance from the Government. There are therefore five banks left. Since 1893 there have been five Indian banks and the Honourable Member to-day quotes Dr. Sprague to show the importance of banking for the development of India.

The Hon. Sir Basil Blackett: May I just say that I quoted him on the importance of central banking, which is rather a different thing?

Sir Purshotam Thakurdas: If the Hon. Member quoted Dr. Sprague in connection with central banking my remarks would not apply; but I have not Dr. Sprague's evidence with me here and I understood that the quotation was in connection with banking generally.

GOLD CURRENCY.

Next the Hon. Member turned to the question of the bullion standard. I have nothing to add to what I have said in my Minute of Dissent on the Royal Commission's Report. I there expressed my conviction that the demonetisation of the sovereign and half-sovereign, the only gold coins which are now legal tender in India, was not necessary. Since then, Indian public opinion has expressed itself unequivocally against this. And this is a matter on which we will hear more later on. The Hon. Member indicated finally that he sympathised with—I do not know if he actually said this or not, but he certainly indicated that if there was a strong feeling in favour of gold currency it would still be feasible even with this gold bullion standard. I think a categorical question may be asked, whether the Government of India are prepared to accept the unanimous recommendation of the Royal Commission that, when India has adequate gold resources, the Assembly "on demand" should have gold currency for India. I think a categorical reply to this recommendation of the Royal Commission would perhaps remove a good deal of suspicion and what appears to me at least to be some apprehension on this score.

STARTING FROM THE TOP.

I wish, Sir, again to refer to the question of the development of banking. What

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said at first I stopped short at, because the Hon. the Finance Member drew my attention to the fact that he quoted Dr. Sprague in connection with central banking. Even in connection with central banking and the necessity of a Reserve Bank, Dr. Sprague, I think, himself told us that in America they had the Federal Reserve Bank on the top of how many banking branches in that country? 35,000 banking branches. Canada, Sir, has 4,000 banks and banking branches and still considering the necessity and the advisability of having a Central Bank. I wish the Hon. the Finance Member had given us the figures, in his elaborate speech, of how many banks and banking branches there are in India. You put in India to-day a pure unalloyed Reserve Bank of the type of the Western countries, I know that in India at times we indeed in the past and may in future—start from the top instead of starting from the bottom. But such movement in this direction, Sir, in connection with banking is not likely to help and may very likely retard progress. If I have any apprehension regarding either the desirability or the value of a pure unalloyed new Reserve Bank being started, it is only because I greatly apprehend that with the responsibility of developing banking taken away from the Imperial Bank, as at present, there may be very little done by anybody in connection with the development of banking.

BRANCHES OF THE IMPERIAL BANK.

Till 1919, Sir, there were hardly 200 banking branches available all over India. It was only when the Imperial Bank Bill was brought before the Imperial Legislative Council that that Council said that before they came to any sort of contract with the Imperial Bank, they would insist that within five years the Imperial Bank must start a hundred new branches. To-day the Imperial Bank stands out as the only banking institution in the whole of India which has branches running into three figures. The branches of the Imperial Bank to-day I understand number about 164. They had 60 branches or so till 1919 and 100 new branches have been started in accordance with the contract since 1920.

And it was only when the Indian Legislature of the day said "Nothing doing with any banking institution which will have the balances of the Government without an undertaking, a hard and fast undertaking, to open so many branches" that within five years India had 100 new branches. I know and I am quite aware that there is a certain amount of feeling that the competition caused by the Imperial Bank branches is a handicap to private Indian banks being started. I do not wish, Sir, in the slightest degree to indicate that there is nothing in that plea. I mention it because I do not want to be misunderstood. The main thing which the country requires to-day is to consider from the point of view of those who run Indian banks and those who wish to develop banking institutions in India, what should be done to encourage banking. The starting of a Reserve Bank of the type that is now proposed will hardly meet the question; in fact, it is possible that there will be nobody left to think of developing branches in the interior of India, and in that connection a reference to Schedule I is very instructive and has a number of lessons. Out of the 26 Banks which can be looked upon as respectable banks for the purpose of banking in India 21 are non-Indian banks. They are either British or Japanese or American or Dutch. There are only 5 Indian banks, and that, Sir, after the Government of India having accepted the Herschell and Fowler Committees' recommendations that development of banking in this country was most necessary even from the point of view of a very correct and adequate currency policy. I therefore submit that the question which is being raised by this Bill is a very important one.

NEED OF A RESERVE BANK.

I did in my Minute of Dissent say that there should be a Reserve Bank and it is necessary for me to say why I favoured at all the starting of a Reserve Bank if I held the view which I have enunciated just now. My reason for favouring a Reserve Bank is this. At present the currency policy of this country is directed by the Government of India under the control and direction of the Secretary of State; in fact it is directed from Whitehall. I feel that any measure which could be put before this House to take that control away from Whitehall and vest it in the Government of India such as it is at present, imperfect and at times non-responsive to our demands as it may be, ("Some Honourable Members:" "Always non-responsive,")—well, you may say that, but I say that that is the least that we could do immediately. Let us therefore support a scheme which will take away control from Whitehall and which will give the control here to the Government of India who will be available to us for explanations, and if need be for our telling them plainly what we think of their policy from time to time. I therefore felt that a scheme which showed us a way out of this was worth considering.

NEW BANK UNNECESSARY.

But I feel, indeed I have said so in my Minute of Dissent, that the Reserve Bank need not necessarily be different from the Imperial Bank. The Imperial Bank, I know, has many critics. At the moment I happen to have the honour of being one of the Governors of the Imperial Bank in my capacity as chairman of the local

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board of Bombay. But in the Assembly on this question I do not look at this subject from the point of view of the shareholder of the Imperial Bank at all. That is much too insignificant to have the slightest consideration in the very serious problem that faces us—of solving how best to encourage banking and how best to have the currency policy directed from within India and by the Government of India. I therefore feel that we need not at the start go on to the pure unalloyed western standard which has been good for America with its 35,000 bank branches but which is not yet good for Canada with her 4,000 bank branches and which may not be at all suitable to India in her present conditions. How many bank branches are there in India to-day? A guess was risked and I was told that it would not be more than 250. India, which is a continent, with 250 banking branches is sought to be treated in the same manner as Canada which hesitates about it with her 4,000 branches, and the sizes of the two countries hardly stand comparison. I therefore feel that, so far as this question is concerned, a good deal should be concentrated on what we get for developing our indigenous banking. I therefore feel that it is only right that this Bill should be circulated, and, in conclusion, I will only hope that the Government of India in the Finance Department will seriously think over their present idea of delaying the other Bill until Budget time, because if nothing else, there will be very strong ground for suspicion, which has been lurking up to this time, that they do not want the question of ratio to be discussed on its merits and that they propose to use the powers vested in them in order to force this Assembly to a certain decision. I hope that it would not be so.

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